
PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES

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By JOHN KORMAN, Expert Special Agent.

SCOPE OF INQUIRY.

The act of Congress of March 6, 1902, establishing a permanent Bureau of the Census, expressly stipulates that the decennial collection of statistics of the special classes, including paupers, shall be restricted to inmates of institutions. The law under which this report has been prepared thus excludes from enumeration the dependent poor found outside of institutions who are supported wholly or in part by what is known technically as outdoor relief, whether of a public or private character. It follows that the statistics obtained in the recent inquiry are not designed to cover the whole problem of pauperism, but only that part of it which manifests itself in the numbers of persons cared for by the public authorities in almshouses.

Since the tabular data presented in the following pages apply only to the almshouse population, the figures do not indicate the total number of dependent poor in the United States, and therefore should not be made to serve as the basis for comparisons between states, or even between localities within the same state, in respect to the extent of pauperism in general. No reliable measure of the extent of pauperism can be had until an enumeration is made of all the dependent poor without distinction as to method of support. Inferences drawn from the number of paupers in almshouses furnish but an imperfect index, because this number has a different meaning in different localities. The size of the almshouse population in a community may or may not reflect accurately the numerical strength of its dependent poor.

In general, the number of paupers in a state who are supported in almshouses bears close relation to the laws governing the indoor care of the poor as well as to the manner of their administration. Rudimentary statutory legislation on this point usually means an inadequate almshouse system, and in consequence a comparatively small number of inmates; whereas ample legislation and the abundant provision of well-kept almshouses naturally tend to increase the number of those who avail themselves of this form of charity.

Hardly second in importance are the prevailing methods of almshouse administration. If the rules governing admissions and discharges are strict, the population of almshouses will augment slowly and remain nearly stationary throughout the year, but if they are lax and inviting, it will augment quickly and fluctuate

violently from season to season. An almshouse which serves as winter headquarters for "rounders" and vagrants will of a certainty have a larger and less stable population than one designed for a community of equal size whose officials seek to restrict admissions so as to include only the deserving poor. In some instances the extent of the almshouse population must be judged in the light of the facilities offered for the care of the sick poor. Thus the practical transformation of almshouses into full-fledged hospitals, which has occurred in many places, inevitably tends to increase the number of inmates by the admission of a class of dependents who would not resort to the ordinary almshouse. Again, the presence of an unusually large almshouse population in some communities may merely indicate that other institutions for the care of dependents are lacking and that, in consequence, insane, feeble-minded, epileptic, and other defective persons are placed in the almshouses.

But these are not the only factors entering into the question. A system of outdoor relief may be so administered as to increase the almshouse population through insistence upon the admission of those who are found to be wholly dependent; or it may work in the direction of diminishing the almshouse population, on the one hand by the lavishness and permanence of the support afforded the poor in their homes, and on the other, when at its best, by carefully sifting out the applicants who can be helped by other means than charity and restricting aid to the really deserving cases. Furthermore, organized charity work tends to lessen the demand for institutional care in so far as it succeeds in making the poor help themselves and discourages the dependence upon alms. On the other hand, the lack of such efforts upon the part of the charity organizations as well as the absence of systematic outdoor relief, whether of a public or private character, tends to accelerate the gravitation toward the almshouse.

For these and other reasons an enumeration of inmates of almshouses does not afford a quantitative measurement of pauperism. The purpose of such an enumeration is rather to show how many persons are provided for in this class of public institutions, and to ascertain personal facts about them that enable one to distinguish the component parts of this pauper element as well as the probable origin of its dependence.

Like the preceding censuses of paupers, the present

one was limited to those found in almshouses; but the establishment of a permanent Bureau of the Census made it possible to broaden the scope of the inquiry in other directions. Formerly enumerations were of necessity restricted to a count of those present on the date set for the general census of population, namely, June 1. This date is poorly adapted to the purpose of securing accurate knowledge concerning the number of persons supported in almshouses, for, as is well known, with the advent of spring begins a migration from almshouses, which by the end of May brings the population of these institutions to low ebb. Therefore, in order to obtain a view of this population at its height, the 31st day of December was chosen as the date of enumeration.

A mere count, however, of the paupers found in almshouses on a given date, no matter how satisfactorily accomplished, does not answer important questions concerning the movement of population in these institutions—how many are admitted during a stated period, how many are discharged, how many die, etc.

Moreover, personal statistics of paupers lose significance when massed together so as to include all who were present on a given date without regard to the fact that some of those enumerated may have figured in a previous census or two, while others have but recently been admitted. In the matter of age, for example, the all-significant fact to be learned is the age period at which dependence most frequently occurs, and not the degree of maturity attained by an inmate who may have spent most of his life in almshouses. Facts in regard to country of birth, parentage, occupation, physical or mental disabilities, and the like also have a new meaning when it is made possible to differentiate those admitted within a year from those who have grown old in the institution. Thus, for instance, figures purporting to show the capacity for work and the physical or mental impairment of inmates are of uncertain value if, as often happens, they fail to differentiate between defects present at the time of admission and those of later development; but they are of exceeding importance if they do so differentiate. In like manner, deductions in regard to the probable causes of dependence, so far as they can be disclosed in such an enumeration, are far safer if based upon a study of cases recently admitted than if based upon a count of all persons found in the almshouse.

A new insight is also gained both into the character of the institution population and the methods of almshouse administration when it is learned what proportion admissions and discharges during a year hold to the number present at any one time. Finally, the approximate annual increase in the almshouse population can not even be estimated on the basis of decennial enumerations restricted to a count of the inmates who are present on a given date. This is not a matter which can be ascertained by a simple comparison of totals for dates that are a whole decade or more apart

without reference to conditions and special influences during intervening years. But having learned the number of inmates of almshouses at the beginning and end of a twelvemonth period, and the number of admissions, deaths, and discharges during the same time, it is possible to state with some accuracy the increment of paupers in almshouses in the course of a year.

Considerations like the above led to a separate enumeration of the persons who were admitted to almshouses during one year, as well as of those who were discharged or died within that time. The inquiries were made by means of three schedules; one covering all inmates present in almshouses on December 31, 1903; a duplicate schedule dealing with all paupers admitted from January 1 to December 31, 1904, both dates inclusive; and a third brief schedule accounting for discharges, deaths, and transfers to other institutions during 1904.

Except for some omissions, changes of secondary importance, and the additions made necessary by the new lines of inquiry, the main body of interrogatories contained in the schedules is in harmony with that used in the census of 1890. Although a different date of enumeration was selected, neither this nor any other innovation precluded the making of any important comparisons of the data for the two censuses. Since the Bureau of the Census for the first time was free to deal with pauper statistics unhampered by a fixed date of inquiry, it seemed wiser to depart to some extent from former investigations in the hope of securing a more varied and complete body of knowledge, than to follow in the old grooves merely for the sake of preserving certain bases of comparison that for the greater part permit few deductions of value. Regard for the preservation of continuity in census statistics of paupers should not be allowed to outweigh regard for improvements in this line of statistical investigation.

The act establishing the permanent Census Bureau states expressly that the collection of statistics of the special classes may not be undertaken until after the completion of the statistics of agriculture and manufactures. Therefore the present inquiry could not be begun until quite three years after the enumeration of the general population, and had to be accomplished without the aid of the usual census enumerators. In most instances almshouse officials served as enumerators under paid appointments as special agents of the Bureau of the Census. The results of this experiment so far as the validity of the statistical material gathered is concerned were in the main satisfactory. This method of enumeration had, moreover, the advantage of making it easier to obtain explanations and corrections of the schedules.

For reasons previously discussed (page 3), an interpretation of the statistics of paupers in almshouses may easily lead to erroneous conclusions unless it be made in the light of the legislation governing both indoor and outdoor relief in the various

states. As a guide to a better understanding of the conditions under which the almshouses of the United States are peopled, the vast body of so-called pauper laws has been summarized for each state and territory, and appears in the form of an appendix to this report.

COMPARISONS WITH EARLIER CENSUSES.

Number of almshouses, 1890 to 1903.—At the census of 1890 returns were tabulated from 2,373 almshouses, of which more than 200 have since been discontinued. The present report accounts for the population of 2,476 almshouses. This number includes 44 almshouses known to have been in operation in 1890, but not then enumerated, 251, which were established after 1890, and 54, not included in 1890, for which the date of establishment is not known. Therefore the number of almshouses which figure in the Census reports for the first time is 349. On account of the large number of almshouses that have been discontinued, the actual growth of this class of institutions since the census of 1890 has been slight. The tendency, especially in states where the town system of control prevails, is more toward the consolidation of small almshouses than toward the building of new ones.

Number of paupers, 1880 to 1903.—Previous to 1880 the census enumerations of paupers in almshouses were somewhat vague and included numbers of persons receiving outdoor relief. This was the case in 1850, 1860, and 1870, and the returns for these years are therefore not comparable with statistics based solely upon the number of inmates of almshouses, to which the last three enumerations have been restricted.

Table I is a summary which gives the number of paupers enumerated in the censuses of 1880, 1890, and 1903, together with the number per 100,000 of population, by sex, the figures for 1903 representing the inmates present on December 31 of that year.

TABLE I.—Number and ratio of paupers enumerated in almshouses on date of census, classified by sex: 1903, 1890, and 1880.

SEX.	PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES.					
	Number.			Number per 100,000 of population.		
	December 31, 1903.	June 1, 1890.	June 1, 1880.	December 31, 1903.	June 1, 1890.	June 1, 1880.
Both sexes..	81,704	73,045	60,203	101.4	116.6	132.0
Males.....	52,444	40,741	35,564	127.0	127.0	139.4
Females.....	29,320	32,304	30,630	74.5	105.7	124.4

¹ Based on assumption that the sex distribution was the same on December 31, 1903, as on June 1, 1900.

During the twenty-three years considered in Table I the number of paupers in almshouses has decreased 30.6 per 100,000 of population. This diminution

appears to have gone on uniformly, being 15.4 per 100,000 of population in the decade 1880 to 1890, and 15.2 during the longer period from 1890 to 1903.

Pauper statistics previous to 1880.—Although the statistics obtained in earlier censuses do not permit valid comparisons because they include an unestablished number of outdoor poor, while those of recent times exclude all figures except those for inmates of institutions, yet it is worth while to note that the census returns for 1850 give the ratio of 217.1 paupers per 100,000 of population; for 1860 the ratio of 263.8; and for 1870 the ratio of 199. After making due allowance for exaggerations resulting from the inclusion of noninstitutional poor, these ratios still present evidence of a notable decline in the number of almshouse paupers per 100,000 of population since 1850.

Comparisons by sex, 1880 to 1903.—Between 1880 and 1890 the ratio of male paupers dropped perceptibly, but has since remained about stationary. On the other hand, the ratio of female paupers has persistently declined, the decrease in the ratio being 50.1 for the entire period and 31.4 for the period 1890 to 1903. The constantly diminishing representation of females in the almshouse population is a phenomenon common to the whole country.

Comparisons by color and nativity, 1880 to 1903.—In estimating the population for any intercensal year no attempt is made to distinguish between native white, and foreign born white, and colored. It is therefore impossible to adduce for 1903 numbers per 100,000 of population of these elements that are comparable with those for 1880 and 1890. Suggestive approximations of the true ratios for 1903 may be obtained, however, by assuming the population in 1903 to be the same as in 1900. These approximations are given in Table II, which shows the distribution, by color and nativity, of paupers and the ratio of paupers to population of same color and nativity, for the three censuses under consideration.

In 1880 there were 22,883 foreign born white paupers in almshouses and in 1890 their number had increased to 27,648. The number of native white paupers declined from 37,603 in 1880 to 36,656 in 1890. In the same decade the number of colored paupers rose from 5,717 to 6,467.

An inspection of Table II shows that, although during the decade 1880 to 1890 the number of foreign born white paupers increased more than that of any other element, the ratio, which declined for all classes, decreased relatively faster for the foreign born white paupers than for the colored and not very much slower than for the native white, for the latter of which the absolute number decreased. This large decrease in the ratio for foreign born white paupers was unquestionably due to the great immigration during the period.

The figures showing the number of paupers per

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100,000 of population for 1903 are computed on the 1900 population, and are consequently higher than the true figures based on the actual population in 1903 would be. Therefore they clearly indicate that the ratio is still decreasing for the native white and for the colored paupers. For the foreign born white the ratio is much smaller than in 1880, but somewhat greater than in 1890.

If the assumption is made (and it is a conservative one) that since 1900 the foreign born white population has increased at the same rate as from 1890 to 1900,

then the ratio for foreign born white paupers in almshouses in 1903 would be 304.9 per 100,000 of population. But in view of the great immigration since 1900 the foreign born white population is undoubtedly increasing much faster than before 1900, and, therefore, it is almost certain that the true ratio for foreign born white paupers is less than in 1890, and that the increased proportion of foreign born white among the paupers in almshouses is due to the fact that the ratio has not decreased as fast for this as for the other elements of population.

TABLE II.—DISTRIBUTION, BY COLOR AND NATIVITY, OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES AND RATIO OF PAUPERS TO GENERAL POPULATION OF SAME COLOR AND NATIVITY: 1903, 1890, AND 1880.

COLOR AND NATIVITY.	PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES.									PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL POPULATION.		
	Number.			Number per 100,000 of population.			Per cent distribution.					
	December 31, 1903.	June 1, 1890.	June 1, 1880.	December 31, 1903. ¹	June 1, 1890.	June 1, 1880.	December 31, 1903.	June 1, 1890.	June 1, 1880.	1900	1890	1880
Aggregate.....	81,764	73,045	66,203	107.6	116.6	132.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	74,854	66,578	60,486	112.0	121.1	139.4	91.5	91.1	91.4	87.9	87.8	86.5
Native.....	42,205	36,050	37,003	71.6	79.9	102.1	51.0	50.2	50.8	74.5	73.2	73.4
Foreign born.....	32,136	27,048	22,883	314.6	303.1	348.8	39.3	37.8	34.6	13.4	14.6	13.1
Nativity unknown..	513	2,274	—	—	—	—	0.6	3.1	—	—	—	—
Colored.....	6,910	6,467	5,717	75.2	81.7	81.7	8.5	8.9	8.6	12.1	12.2	13.5

¹ Based upon the population of 1900.

The number of colored paupers per 100,000 of population was the same (84.7) in 1880 and 1890, but has declined to 75.2 on the basis of the general population enumeration of 1900 and therefore much faster than the ratio calculated on the same basis for native white paupers, which was 79.9 in 1890 and 74.6 in 1903. If the rate of increase of the colored and native white population since 1900 were known, it is probable that the actual ratios of paupers per 100,000 of population would be found somewhat lower than those given for both elements.

Comparisons by states and territories, 1890 to 1903.—

The diminution in the ratio of almshouse paupers, although marked for the country as a whole, is not common to all states. Table III shows, by states and territories, the total population, the number of paupers in each 100,000 of population in 1890 and 1903, with the increase or decrease in number and in ratio during the thirteen years.

All the geographic divisions except the Western show declining ratios of paupers to population. The decrease in the ratio is most marked in the North Atlantic group, for which there is a decline of 30 per 100,000 of population. The South Atlantic states follow with a decline of 16. Between 1890 and 1903 the absolute increase in the number of almshouse paupers in the North Atlantic division was 2,135; but it is not participated in by Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New Jersey, and it affects unfavorably the ratios of but two states, Rhode Island and Connecticut, which show an increase in ratio of 30.1 and 21.2, respectively.

During the decade 1880 to 1890 the ratios had decreased in both these states. It is noteworthy that Massachusetts contributes a much larger share to the absolute increase of paupers in the North Atlantic group than the states of New York and Pennsylvania. In this division the most striking diminution both in actual number of paupers and ratio is exhibited by New Jersey, where the ratio has declined 93.2 per 100,000 of population in the thirteen years.

During the period 1890 to 1903 the absolute increase in the number of paupers in the South Atlantic division was very slight, although during the decade 1880 to 1890 there was a large increase in the actual number, accompanied by an increase in the ratio. Florida is the only state in this group where the ratio of paupers to population has increased. But this fact can hardly be taken as a sign of growing distress, for in 1890 Florida supported only 24 paupers in almshouses, and the larger number now receiving indoor care merely indicates a gradual development of an almshouse system. In Delaware and Virginia there has been a decrease in the actual number of paupers. In the Eleventh Census Georgia, Maryland, and North Carolina were shown to have increasing pauper ratios, whereas the present enumeration evidences a decrease of 21.7 for Maryland, 16.1 for North Carolina, and 5.1 for Georgia.

With the single exception of Wisconsin all the states of the North Central division show an increase in the number of paupers cared for in almshouses, and a majority of them also show increased ratios. The unfavorable changes in the ratios are, however, slight in the

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case of Iowa and of Minnesota. That they are more newness of these states and the absence until recent notable for the Dakotas is readily explained by the years of organized indoor relief.

TABLE III.—NUMBER AND RATIO OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES ON DATE OF CENSUS, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES: 1903 AND 1890.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	DECEMBER 31, 1903.			JUNE 1, 1890.			INCREASE (+) OR DECREASE (−) OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, 1890 TO 1903.		RANK OF STATE, BY RATIO OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES TO POPULATION.	
	General population. ¹	Paupers enumerated in almshouses.		General population.	Paupers enumerated in almshouses.					
		Number.	Number per 100,000 of population.		Number.	Number per 100,000 of population.	Number.	Number per 100,000 of population.	December 31, 1903.	June 1, 1890.
Continental United States.....	80,651,957	81,764	101.4	62,622,250	73,045	116.6	+8,719	−15.2		
North Atlantic division.....	22,350,924	33,278	148.9	17,401,545	31,143	178.9	+2,135	−30.0		
Maine.....	706,427	1,152	163.1	661,086	1,161	175.6	−9	−12.5	8	8
New Hampshire.....	424,150	1,140	268.8	376,530	1,143	303.6	−3	−34.8	2	1
Vermont.....	347,660	414	119.1	332,422	543	163.3	−129	−44.2	13	11
Massachusetts.....	3,008,304	5,934	197.3	2,238,943	4,725	211.0	+1,209	−13.7	5	3
Rhode Island.....	458,314	788	171.9	345,506	490	141.8	+298	+30.1	7	14
Connecticut.....	966,528	2,067	213.9	746,258	1,438	192.7	+629	+21.2	4	5
New York.....	7,722,443	10,763	139.8	5,997,853	10,272	171.3	+521	−31.5	10	9
New Jersey.....	2,040,882	1,936	94.9	1,444,933	2,718	188.1	−782	−93.2	20	6
Pennsylvania.....	6,676,216	9,054	135.6	5,258,014	8,653	164.6	+401	−20.0	11	10
South Atlantic division.....	11,011,640	8,208	75.4	8,857,920	8,100	91.4	+198	−16.0		
Delaware.....	190,556	278	145.9	168,493	290	177.5	−21	−31.6	9	7
Maryland.....	1,240,236	1,633	131.7	1,042,390	1,599	153.4	+34	−21.7	12	13
District of Columbia.....	206,035	230	77.7	230,392	221	95.9	+9	−18.2	24	20
Virginia.....	1,925,208	1,915	99.5	1,655,980	2,193	132.4	−278	−32.0	19	17
West Virginia.....	1,029,035	881	85.6	762,794	792	103.8	+89	−18.2	23	23
North Carolina.....	1,992,661	1,519	76.2	1,617,947	1,493	92.3	+26	−16.1	25	22
South Carolina.....	1,408,100	686	48.7	1,151,149	578	50.2	+108	−1.5	35	28
Georgia.....	2,352,132	1,032	43.9	1,837,353	901	49.0	+131	−5.1	36	29
Florida.....	577,677	124	21.5	391,422	24	6.1	+100	+15.4	45	46
North Central division.....	27,719,093	27,745	100.1	22,362,270	25,615	114.5	+2,130	−14.4		
Ohio.....	4,331,414	8,172	188.7	3,672,316	7,400	201.5	+772	−12.8	6	4
Indiana.....	2,632,582	3,120	118.5	2,192,404	2,927	133.5	+193	−15.0	14	15
Illinois.....	5,178,163	5,635	108.8	3,826,351	5,395	141.0	+240	−32.2	16	16
Michigan.....	2,518,659	2,504	103.0	2,093,889	1,916	91.5	+678	+11.5	18	23
Wisconsin.....	2,203,671	1,006	72.9	1,680,880	2,641	156.6	−1,035	−83.7	28	12
Minnesota.....	1,609,459	547	28.6	1,301,826	365	28.0	+182	+0.6	43	36
Iowa.....	2,346,361	2,019	86.0	1,911,896	1,621	84.8	+308	+1.2	21	27
Texas.....	3,259,845	2,465	75.6	2,679,184	2,378	88.8	+87	−13.2	26	24
Missouri.....	3,365,070	184	50.4	1,827,719	35	19.2	+149	+31.2	34	43
North Dakota.....	420,550	159	37.8	328,808	53	16.1	+106	+21.7	40	44
South Dakota.....	1,067,606	464	43.5	1,058,010	291	27.5	+173	+16.0	37	37
Nebraska.....	1,485,683	780	52.5	1,427,096	593	41.6	+187	+10.9	33	30
South Central division.....	15,122,763	6,457	42.7	10,972,893	5,040	46.0	+1,408	−3.3		
Kentucky.....	2,250,567	1,678	74.6	1,858,635	1,578	84.9	+100	−10.3	27	20
Tennessee.....	2,111,310	1,812	85.8	1,767,518	1,545	87.4	+267	−1.6	22	25
Alabama.....	1,941,678	761	39.2	1,513,017	623	41.2	+138	−2.0	39	31
Mississippi.....	1,645,035	517	31.4	1,280,600	494	38.3	+23	−6.9	42	33
Louisiana.....	1,475,880	149	10.1	1,118,587	122	10.9	+27	−0.8	47	45
Texas.....	3,340,100	913	27.3	2,235,523	464	20.8	+440	+6.5	44	40
Indian Territory.....	407,082									
Oklahoma.....	512,940	52	10.1	61,834			+52	+10.1	46	
Arkansas.....	1,377,265	575	41.7	1,128,179	223	19.8	+352	+21.9	38	42
Western division.....	4,447,567	5,986	134.6	3,027,613	3,138	103.6	+2,848	+31.0		
Montana.....	279,398	314	112.4	132,159	132	99.9	+182	+12.5	15	19
Wyoming.....	103,272			60,705						
Colorado.....	585,011	308	68.0	412,198	87	21.1	+811	+46.9	20	30
New Mexico.....	207,861			153,593	1	0.7	−1	−0.7		47
Arizona.....	135,361	146	107.9	59,620	23	38.6	+123	+69.3	17	32
Utah.....	300,388	184	61.3	207,005	62	29.8	+122	+31.5	30	35
Nevada.....	42,335	171	403.9	45,701	43	94.0	+128	+309.9	1	21
Idaho.....	188,010	70	37.2	84,385	20	23.7	+50	+13.5	41	38
Washington.....	575,749	306	53.1	349,390	71	20.3	+235	+32.8	32	41
Oregon.....	447,876	257	57.4	313,767	99	31.6	+158	+25.8	31	34
California.....	1,582,396	4,140	261.6	1,208,130	2,600	215.2	+1,540	+46.4	3	2

¹ Estimated.

In Wisconsin a remarkable change has taken place. The census of 1890 showed an increase of 1,623 almshouse paupers in ten years, and in consequence a high ratio. For the past thirteen years, on the other hand, returns for Wisconsin exhibit a loss of 1,035 in the actual number of paupers and a decrease of 83.7 per 100,000 of population.

Between 1880 and 1890 the number of paupers as well as the ratios per 100,000 of population increased

in all the states of the South Central division for which returns were at hand. Since 1890 the number of paupers has increased in each state of this group, but increased ratios have resulted only in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. In the other states the ratios have decreased as compared with those for thirteen years ago.

The Western division affords the least favorable exhibit with the largest gain in number of paupers,

namely, 2,848, and an increase in ratio of 31. It is to be expected that the ratio of paupers should increase in the new states, which had a comparatively small number of dependents thirteen years ago, and have during this interval adopted more adequate legislation for poor relief, as well as a constantly developing almshouse system. It is, furthermore, an inevitable consequence of a falling off in population such as has taken place in Nevada that the number of paupers should augment and the ratio of increase reach astounding proportions. In comparison with the increase in the ratio for most of the states and territories, that for Colorado seems to be exceptionally great. While this is true, the ratio for 1903 is low as compared with that for many of the states, and the actual increase in the number of paupers must be considered in the light of the fact that since 1890 Colorado has established five new almshouses, some of which also perform the functions of a general hospital for indigents. The figures for California likewise take on a new meaning when it is known that the almshouses are very generally operated as county hospitals for dependent sick. The otherwise startling proportions of its almshouse population must therefore be understood to embrace very many sick poor, who in other states would not have been enumerated, or would have been found, if at all, among the inmates of other institutions:

Summarizing these comparisons, the fact stands out that the ratio of almshouse paupers to population has decreased, not only in the United States as a whole, but in most of the states. With very few exceptions the increased ratios appear in the newer commonwealths, and are attributable for the most part to the ampler institutional provisions for dependents and not to an exceptional increase of pauperism. On the other hand, it would be equally a mistake to read in the decreased ratios observable elsewhere merely evidence of correspondingly decreasing want.

Development in provisions for dependents.—A decade marked by widespread and growing economic distress would probably not have disclosed any decline in the ratios of almshouse paupers to population. But under normal conditions such a decrease is a natural occurrence, and is caused in the first place by changes that have taken place in the treatment of the dependent and defective classes.

In earlier times the almshouses were the ordinary institutions for the care of unfortunates of nearly every class. A gradual segregation has been going on, and thousands who formerly would have sought the almshouse as the only refuge are being distributed among hospitals for the sick or for the insane, schools for the feeble-minded or the deaf and blind, children's homes, colonies for epileptics, and a multitude of variously named benevolent institutions. This more humane classification is still in progress and tends further to weed out the almshouse population. More adequate legislation governing almshouses and better

methods of administration have also contributed toward a diminution of the almshouse population. Finally, recent years have witnessed an extraordinary development of rationally organized charity work, chiefly of a private nature, which has striven with telling effect to make the poor self-helping and to distribute destitute children among families, thus saving so far as possible the dependents from institutional life. In this connection it is worthy of note that in states with the best equipped systems of organized private charity the pauper ratios have decreased, notwithstanding the fact that some of these states contain the largest urban centers in the country.

The rise or fall in the ratios of almshouse paupers to population can only remotely serve as a general index of prevailing distress or prosperity so long as many other factors entering into the problem of poverty remain unknown.

THE ALMSHOUSE POPULATION ON DECEMBER 31, 1903.

As shown by the figures in Table III, the order of the states in respect to number of almshouse paupers to 100,000 of population has undergone some striking changes since 1890. Thus, Nevada has moved up from the twenty-first to the first place for the reasons to which reference has already been made. Rhode Island has ascended seven places in the scale, while New Jersey has dropped from the sixth to the twentieth and Wisconsin from the twelfth to the twenty-eighth. These are among the most significant changes.

It still remains true that high ratios of paupers are chiefly characteristic of the older commonwealths. The fourteen states showing pauper ratios in excess of 115 per 100,000 of population embrace, with the exception of New Jersey, those of the entire North Atlantic group, Ohio and Indiana of the North Central division, and Delaware and Maryland of the South Atlantic division. The older Southern states can hardly be brought into comparison. Racial conditions, climate, the preponderance of a rural population, the generally scanty almshouse facilities, and other peculiarities make it necessary to judge their pauper ratios by themselves. In all the older of the fourteen states, with a ratio of almshouse paupers in excess of 115 per 100,000 of population in 1903, the ratios have decreased as compared with those for 1890 except in Connecticut and Rhode Island. The singular reasons for the positions occupied by Nevada and California have already been discussed.

Thirty-three states and territories have pauper ratios of less than 115 per 100,000 of population and 29 of less than 100. These 29 include but one state of the North Atlantic group, namely, New Jersey, but they include all of the South Atlantic group except Delaware and Maryland; all of the North Central division except Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan; all of the South Central division; and all of the Western division except Montana, Arizona, Nevada, and California.

MOVEMENT OF ALMSHOUSE POPULATION.

9

The extraordinary range of ratios, varying from 10 per 100,000 of population in Louisiana and Oklahoma to 403.9 in Nevada precludes all comparisons between states at the two extremes. Differences in almshouse systems and methods of administration, in elements of population and their distribution, in climate, industrial conditions, etc., generally account for the excessive variations in ratios. It will be observed that where prevailing social conditions are nearly the same, the ratios of almshouse paupers are at least not so far apart as to make the validity of comparisons doubtful. On the other hand, a similarity of ratios may be misleading if judged without regard to other factors. Low ratios betoken in some states lack of suitable accommodations rather than the scarcity of depend-

ents, while in other states they point both to careful methods of indoor relief and a paucity in the number of persons standing in need of it.

MOVEMENT OF ALMSHOUSE POPULATION, 1904.

Tables 1, 2, and 3 (pages 53, 54, and 56) show, for states and territories, the movement of the almshouse population, first, by sex, second, by color and sex, and third, by color and nativity, in each almshouse.

Color and sex.—Table IV summarizes the movement of population in almshouses, by color and sex, for the states and territories, and shows the increase or decrease between December 31, 1903, and January 1, 1905.

TABLE IV.—MOVEMENT DURING 1904 OF ALMSHOUSE POPULATION, CLASSIFIED BY COLOR AND SEX, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.																		
STATE OR TERRITORY.	White.									Colored.								
	December 31, 1903.			January 1, 1905.			Increase (+) or decrease (-).			December 31, 1903.			January 1, 1905.			Increase (+) or decrease (-).		
	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.	Total.	Male.	Fe- male.
Continental United States.	74,854	48,445	26,409	77,855	52,094	24,861	+3,001	+4,540	-1,548	6,910	3,999	2,911	7,435	4,362	3,073	+525	+363	+162
North Atlantic division.	32,398	20,672	11,726	33,737	23,727	10,010	+1,339	+3,055	-1,716	880	509	371	1,107	662	445	+227	+153	+74
Maine.	1,145	642	503	1,100	628	471	-45	-14	-22	7	7	.....	15	13	2	+8	+6	+2
New Hampshire.	1,130	602	528	1,064	553	511	-66	-40	-17	10	6	4	12	6	6	+2	.....	+2
Vermont.	405	221	184	414	238	176	+9	+17	-8	9	4	5	11	6	5	+2	+2	.....
Massachusetts.	5,853	3,558	2,295	5,955	3,850	2,096	+102	+301	-109	81	45	36	133	80	47	+52	+41	+11
Rhode Island.	758	414	344	788	442	346	+30	+28	+2	30	21	9	41	25	16	+11	+4	+7
Connecticut.	2,006	1,330	670	2,263	1,512	751	+257	+170	+81	61	33	28	67	38	29	+4	+5	+1
New York.	10,577	6,872	3,705	10,733	6,971	3,762	+156	+99	+57	216	124	92	277	160	117	+61	+36	+25
New Jersey.	1,831	1,205	626	1,898	1,235	663	+67	+30	+37	105	58	47	122	63	59	+17	+5	+12
Pennsylvania.	8,093	5,822	2,271	8,513	5,289	1,224	+420	+2,407	-1,047	361	211	150	420	265	164	+68	+54	+14
South Atlantic division.	5,478	2,682	2,796	5,080	2,838	2,242	+202	+156	+46	2,820	1,612	1,208	2,070	1,004	1,276	+150	+82	+68
Delaware.	222	126	96	220	124	105	+7	-2	+9	56	37	19	63	36	27	+7	-1	+8
Maryland.	1,260	879	381	1,325	952	373	+65	+73	-8	373	203	170	405	227	178	+32	+24	+8
District of Columbia.	88	58	30	93	63	30	+5	+5	-3	142	86	56	100	85	75	+18	-1	+19
Virginia.	1,077	450	618	1,112	480	632	+35	+21	+14	838	407	371	883	480	403	+45	+13	+32
West Virginia.	764	400	364	846	434	412	+82	+28	+54	117	78	39	115	70	39	+2	-2	.....
North Carolina.	954	357	597	981	381	600	+27	+24	+3	565	308	257	578	321	257	+13	+13	.....
South Carolina.	418	155	263	415	171	244	-3	+16	-19	208	154	114	280	168	121	+21	+14	+7
Georgia.	632	291	341	692	178	424	-30	-23	-7	400	233	167	407	255	152	+7	+22	-15
Florida.	63	41	22	80	55	25	+17	+14	+3	61	46	15	70	46	24	+9	.....	+9
North Central division.	26,617	17,713	8,904	27,283	18,454	8,829	+666	+741	-75	1,128	712	416	1,176	770	406	+48	+58	-10
Ohio.	7,737	5,050	2,687	7,903	5,273	2,630	+166	+214	-48	435	285	150	433	268	135	+2	+13	-15
Indiana.	3,094	2,010	1,084	3,206	2,163	1,043	+202	+153	-49	110	77	33	129	87	42	+13	+10	+3
Illinois.	5,502	3,565	1,937	5,238	3,544	1,694	-204	-21	-24	133	71	62	149	98	51	+16	+27	-11
Michigan.	2,542	1,749	793	2,796	1,900	896	+254	+211	+43	52	40	12	57	48	9	+5	+8	-3
Wisconsin.	1,601	1,178	423	1,707	1,263	444	+106	+85	+21	5	3	2	6	4	2	+1	+1	.....
Minnesota.	1,642	1,438	204	1,557	1,403	154	-85	+6	+6	5	4	1	6	7	1	+3	+3	.....
Iowa.	1,081	1,251	730	2,055	1,280	775	+974	+20	+45	38	24	14	41	27	14	+3	+3	.....
Missouri.	2,213	1,366	847	2,257	1,394	863	+44	+28	+16	252	143	109	244	127	117	+8	+10	+8
North Dakota.	182	139	43	233	160	73	+51	+30	+21	3	2	1	3	3	0	+1	+1	.....
South Dakota.	157	110	47	161	112	49	+4	+7	+11	2	1	1	3	2	1	+1	+1	.....
Nebraska.	453	336	117	477	357	120	+24	+21	+3	11	8	3	10	8	2	+1	+1	-1
Kansas.	703	493	210	693	485	208	-10	-8	-2	77	54	23	93	61	32	+16	+7	+9
South Central division.	4,512	2,263	2,249	4,801	2,430	2,371	+289	+107	+122	1,945	1,050	895	1,990	1,065	925	+45	+15	+30
Kentucky.	1,300	715	585	1,396	715	681	+96	+36	.....	318	175	143	306	165	141	+12	+10	-2
Tennessee.	1,228	646	582	1,343	697	646	+115	+61	+54	584	310	274	641	342	299	+57	+32	+25
Alabama.	380	144	236	414	158	256	+25	+14	+11	372	197	175	357	185	172	+15	+12	-3
Mississippi.	221	70	151	223	80	143	+2	+1	+1	296	150	146	280	150	130	+16	+16	-16
Louisiana.	126	64	62	140	84	56	+23	+20	+3	23	13	10	14	8	6	+9	+5	-4
Texas.	706	441	265	742	480	262	+36	+39	-3	207	113	94	221	114	107	+14	+1	+13
Indian Territory.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oklahoma.	50	40	10	58	38	20	+8	-2	+10	2	2	.....	4	4	.....	+2	+2	.....
Arkansas.	432	234	198	470	268	202	+44	+34	+10	143	90	53	167	97	70	+24	+7	+17
Western division.	5,849	5,115	734	6,354	5,545	809	+505	+430	+75	137	116	21	192	171	21	+55	+55	.....
Montana.	310	278	32	420	385	35	+110	+107	+3	4	4	.....	9	6	3	+5	+2	+3
Wyoming.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Colorado.	392	342	50	452	383	69	+60	+41	+19	6	4	2	10	0	1	+4	+5	-1
New Mexico.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona.	140	137	3	180	175	5	+40	+38	+2	0	5	1	11	11	.....	+5	+6	-1
Utah.	181	123	58	184	124	60	+3	+1	+2	3	2	1	3	2	1	+1	+1	.....
Nevada.	171	148	23	192	143	49	-9	-5	-4	.....	.....	.....	4	4	.....	+4	+4	.....
Idaho.	70	60	10	111	108	3	+41	+30	+2	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	+1	+1	.....
Washington.	301	275	26	311	285	26	+10	+10	.....	5	2	3	7	4	3	+2	+2	.....
Oregon.	252	226	26	278	332	46	+126	+106	+20	5	5	.....	11	11	.....	+6	+6	.....
California.	4,032	3,517	515	4,156	3,610	546	+124	+93	+31	108	94	14	130	123	13	+28	+29	-1

During the twelve months under consideration the white and colored paupers in almshouses increased by 3,526. Just what the rate of increase in 1904 portends for the future can not be predicted, but if the annual increment of paupers were to continue on the same scale during the next ten years it would undoubtedly produce a largely increased ratio to population instead of a decreased ratio, such as is found for the period 1890 to 1903. In this period the paupers had increased by 8,719, whereas if the rate of growth indicated for the year 1904 keeps up unabated, the increase during the next three years will exceed the increase during the preceding thirteen. It is probable that a considerable part of the apparent increase may be ascribed to the careful bookkeeping insisted upon for the year under investigation, but this supposition can only be tested by more frequent reports on the movement of almshouse population.

Only seven states, namely, Maine, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, and Nevada, show a reduction in the number of white paupers during the twelve months. Pennsylvania returns the largest increase, 820, followed by Connecticut and Michigan with 257 and 254, respectively.

The figures for the United States show that the increase in the number of white paupers in almshouses is due wholly to an increase in males, as the number of females of this class has decreased 1,548. Thirty-two states, however, show an increased number of white female paupers, but these increases are counterbalanced by decreases in other states, particularly in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Illinois.

The number of colored inmates of almshouses has increased 525 in a year. Contrary to expectation, the increase is much more noticeable in the North Atlantic states than in the Southern states. There has been also an increase of colored female paupers, whereas the contrary fact was noted in regard to white female paupers.

Admissions and discharges, deaths, and transfers.—Another view of the almshouse population is presented in Table v, which gives for these institutions the number and percentages of admissions and of discharges, deaths, and transfers, for states and territories.

It is seen from Table v that the almshouses during the year under consideration dealt with 163,176 persons, of whom 81,764 were present on December 31, 1903, and 81,412 were admitted during the ensuing twelve months.

The number at the beginning of the year exceeded the number admitted during the year by only 352. Yet in enumerating admissions there has been no duplication, for even if a person was admitted two or more times during the year, he was counted only once; otherwise the admissions would have been found to outnumber the population on the given date, for it is a common occurrence that in the course of a year a person will be admitted to the same almshouse more than once.

TABLE V.—Number and per cent of admissions and of discharges, deaths, and transfers among the paupers in almshouses, for states and territories: 1904.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.					
	Total number.	Number.			Per cent.	
		Enumerated, December 31, 1903.	Admitted during 1904.	Discharged, died, or transferred during 1904.	Admitted during 1904.	Discharged, died, or transferred during 1904.
Continental United States...	163,176	81,764	81,412	77,886	49.9	47.7
North Atlantic division...	69,608	33,278	30,300	34,824	52.2	50.0
Maine.....	1,980	1,152	828	856	41.8	43.2
New Hampshire.....	1,786	1,140	646	710	36.2	39.8
Vermont.....	645	414	231	220	35.8	34.1
Massachusetts.....	14,332	5,934	8,398	8,244	58.4	57.5
Rhode Island.....	1,339	788	551	540	41.2	38.1
Connecticut.....	4,403	2,067	2,336	2,073	53.1	47.1
New York.....	22,866	10,793	12,073	11,856	52.8	51.8
New Jersey.....	3,525	1,936	1,589	1,505	45.1	42.7
Pennsylvania.....	18,762	9,054	9,738	8,850	51.8	47.1
South Atlantic division...	15,525	8,298	7,227	6,875	46.6	44.3
Delaware.....	401	278	183	169	39.7	36.7
Maryland.....	3,250	1,633	1,617	1,520	49.8	46.8
District of Columbia.....	378	230	148	128	39.2	33.9
Virginia.....	4,074	1,915	2,159	2,079	53.0	51.0
West Virginia.....	1,000	881	719	639	44.9	39.9
North Carolina.....	2,382	1,519	863	823	36.2	34.6
South Carolina.....	1,118	686	432	414	38.6	37.0
Georgia.....	1,758	1,032	726	749	41.3	42.6
Florida.....	604	124	380	354	75.4	70.2
North Central division....	48,224	27,745	30,479	19,765	42.5	41.0
Ohio.....	15,203	8,172	7,091	6,927	46.5	45.4
Indiana.....	4,920	3,120	1,800	1,585	36.6	32.2
Illinois.....	10,081	5,635	4,446	4,694	44.1	46.6
Michigan.....	5,066	2,594	2,472	2,213	48.8	43.7
Wisconsin.....	2,608	1,606	1,092	985	40.5	36.5
Minnesota.....	1,064	547	517	499	48.6	46.9
Iowa.....	2,915	2,019	806	819	39.7	28.1
Missouri.....	3,588	2,465	1,123	1,087	31.3	30.3
North Dakota.....	347	184	163	111	47.0	32.0
South Dakota.....	300	150	150	145	48.5	46.9
Nebraska.....	638	464	174	151	27.3	23.7
Kansas.....	1,335	780	555	540	41.6	41.1
South Central division....	11,950	6,467	5,493	5,150	46.0	43.2
Kentucky.....	2,691	1,678	1,013	980	37.6	36.8
Tennessee.....	3,272	1,812	1,460	1,288	44.6	39.4
Alabama.....	1,509	761	748	738	49.6	48.9
Mississippi.....	744	517	227	241	30.5	32.4
Louisiana.....	224	149	75	61	33.5	27.2
Texas.....	1,814	913	901	851	40.7	46.9
Indian Territory.....	130	52	87	77	62.0	55.4
Oklahoma.....	1,557	575	982	914	63.1	58.7
Arkansas.....	1,557	575	982	914	63.1	58.7
Western division.....	17,800	5,986	11,823	11,263	66.4	63.2
Montana.....	1,073	314	750	644	70.7	60.0
Wyoming.....	1,062	398	694	630	63.6	57.7
Colorado.....	1,062	398	694	630	63.6	57.7
New Mexico.....	582	146	436	391	74.0	67.2
Arizona.....	308	184	124	121	40.3	39.3
Utah.....	518	171	347	352	67.0	68.0
Idaho.....	238	70	168	126	70.6	52.9
Washington.....	726	306	420	408	57.0	56.2
Oregon.....	802	257	545	413	68.0	51.5
California.....	12,470	4,140	8,330	8,178	69.8	65.6

In the North Atlantic division the admissions outnumbered the population notwithstanding the fact that in five of the nine states belonging to this group, namely, in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and New Jersey, the population on December 31, 1903, was larger than the number admitted in 1904.

In the South Atlantic, North Central, and South Central divisions conditions are reversed, there being an excess of population on December 31, 1903, over admissions during the ensuing year, except in Virginia, Florida, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. On the other hand, the returns for the Western division show that the persons admitted to almshouses during the twelve months

of 1904 were greater in number than those enumerated on December 31, 1903, except in Utah. Thus in the states of the extreme East and the extreme West there is a similarity of conditions in regard to the movement of population in almshouses. The discharges from institutions, which in this table include deaths and transfers to other institutions, point in the same direction.

The figures in Table v show that only in the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Georgia, Illinois, Mississippi, and Nevada is the number of persons discharged during 1904 greater than the number admitted. Thus these states alone show a net decrease in the pauper population of almshouses.

Comparatively low percentages of admissions, with correspondingly low percentages of discharges, indicate, as a rule, the degree of stability of the almshouse population, and vice versa. Low percentages of both kinds are characteristic of states with a preponderating rural population. Vermont, the Carolinas, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Louisiana furnish examples. Some of the notable exceptions merely illustrate the fact that poor relief laws and the manner in which almshouses are administered cause instability of the institutional population in communities that are naturally without a large floating contingent. Other exceptions, for instance, Minnesota, may be explained by the singularly low ratio of almshouse paupers to general population.

High percentages of both admissions and discharges are, as a rule, characteristic of states with large urban populations or large single centers of population, for instance, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, etc. Most of the states of the Western division are in this respect in a class by themselves. Their pauper laws and methods of administration allow greater latitude concerning admissions and discharges than is ordinarily permitted in older communities; and in some of these states the maintenance of county hospitals, as in California and Colorado, causes a rapid shifting of inmates who must be counted as paupers.

Although the percentages of admissions and discharges must be variously interpreted for the different states, yet the facts, that in the course of twelve months the admissions almost equal the population on the given date and that the discharges are but a few thousand less, reveal an unexpected degree of mobility among the population of the almshouses. No movement on such a scale would be possible unless pauper laws and almshouse administrations permitted a very free ingress as well as egress. But it should be distinctly understood that the vast number discharged in the course of a year does not signify that so many go never to return. On the contrary, at the beginning of every summer the almshouses are emptied of thousands who can be depended upon to return as

soon as cold weather sets in. The number admitted during 1904 may therefore be said to include a majority who are more or less seasoned almshouse inmates.

Nature of discharges.—The mobility of the almshouse population, as illustrated in Table v, suggests that many inmates must be able to provide their own support at least during a part of the year or have relatives and friends who are willing to aid them temporarily and at intervals. This supposition is fully borne out by the figures in Table 6 (page 98), which shows the number of discharges from almshouses, deaths, and transfers to other institutions. The aggregate number involved is 77,886, of which 17,154 were deaths, 6,533 transfers to other institutions, and the remainder, 54,199, permanent or temporary discharges. In regard to all persons discharged the inquiry was made whether they were returned to relatives or friends or sent away from institutions in keeping of self, that is, with no known resources but their own to fall back upon. Table vi shows the percentages of the two kinds of discharges, for main geographic divisions.

TABLE VI.—*Per cent distribution, by prospective means of support, of paupers discharged from almshouses, for main geographic divisions: 1904.*

DIVISION.	PAUPERS DISCHARGED FROM ALMSHOUSES: 1904.	
	Per cent to keeping of relatives or friends.	Per cent to keeping of self.
Continental United States.....	25.4	74.6
North Atlantic.....	26.1	73.9
South Atlantic.....	34.5	65.5
North Central.....	25.8	74.2
South Central.....	43.4	56.6
Western.....	12.0	88.0

In the number discharged to keeping of self, which constitutes 74.6 per cent of the total discharges, is included the group of men and women who resort to almshouses for medical treatment only. But it is probable that after due allowance has been made for the number of these accidental paupers, there is still a majority of the persons discharged whose pauperism does not mean that they are entirely unable to earn a living.

In the North Atlantic and North Central divisions the percentages of inmates who are supposed to provide their own support upon leaving the almshouses are nearly alike and involve about three-fourths of all discharges. The South Atlantic and South Central states show larger percentages of discharges to relatives or friends, as might be expected in communities with a fairly stable population and a comparatively mild and short winter. In the Western division nearly all discharges from almshouses are "to keeping of self," a fact bearing close relation to the extensive operations of almshouses in that section as hospitals for the indigent sick.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.

Only in Rhode Island, the District of Columbia, North Carolina, Nebraska, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Oklahoma are the numbers discharged to relatives or friends larger than the numbers discharged to their own care, as shown in Table 6. This is not the case in a single state with a large aggregate of discharges.

The transfers of almshouse inmates to other institutions involve for the greater part children, who under the laws of many states are not permitted to remain permanently in almshouses, and some insane and feeble-minded. The extraordinary number of transfers shown for Massachusetts was occasioned by

a law which became operative in 1904 and compelled the removal of all insane in almshouses to state hospitals.

ANALYSIS OF DATA, 1904.

In Table VII, based upon Tables 4 and 5 (pages 94 and 96), the paupers are classified by color, nativity, race, and sex, for main geographic divisions. The first part of the table presents the data for the almshouse population enumerated on December 31, 1903, and the second those for the paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904.

TABLE VII.—PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, AND THOSE ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.													
DIVISION AND SEX.	Aggregate.	White.								Colored.			
		Total.	Native.				Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mongolian.	Indian.	
			Total.	Native parent-age.	Foreign parent-age.	Mixed parent-age. ¹							
Enumerated, December 31, 1903.													
Continental United States:													
Both sexes	81,764	74,854	42,205	31,944	5,777	1,002	2,582	32,130	513	6,910	6,793	44	73
Males	52,444	48,445	25,187	18,338	4,060	1,216	1,564	23,036	222	3,900	3,912	43	44
Females	29,320	26,409	17,018	13,606	1,708	686	1,018	9,100	291	2,911	2,881	1	29
North Atlantic division:													
Both sexes	33,278	32,398	15,554	10,679	3,324	868	683	16,738	100	880	865	4	11
Males	21,181	20,672	9,742	6,513	2,203	540	306	10,888	42	500	490	4	6
Females	12,097	11,726	5,812	4,166	1,031	328	287	5,850	58	371	360	.....	5
South Atlantic division:													
Both sexes	8,208	5,478	4,746	4,203	201	117	135	714	18	2,820	2,810	.....	4
Males	4,204	2,682	2,139	1,862	153	67	57	533	10	1,612	1,611	.....	1
Females	4,004	2,796	2,607	2,341	48	50	78	181	8	1,208	1,205	.....	3
North Central division:													
Both sexes	27,745	20,617	15,488	11,848	1,767	648	1,225	10,810	310	1,128	1,108	2	18
Males	18,425	17,713	9,228	6,921	1,206	404	607	8,351	134	712	704	1	7
Females	9,320	8,904	6,260	4,927	561	244	618	2,458	176	416	404	1	11
South Central division:													
Both sexes	6,457	4,512	3,850	3,481	85	110	183	592	61	1,045	1,030	.....	6
Males	3,313	2,263	1,783	1,504	50	65	98	457	23	1,050	1,046	.....	4
Females	3,144	2,249	2,076	1,977	29	45	85	135	38	895	893	.....	2
Western division:													
Both sexes	5,986	5,840	2,558	1,643	400	150	356	3,273	18	137	65	38	34
Males	5,231	5,115	2,205	1,478	361	140	316	2,807	13	119	52	38	26
Females	755	724	263	165	39	10	40	466	5	21	13	.....	8
Admitted during 1904.													
Continental United States:													
Both sexes	81,412	73,809	41,445	27,384	7,728	2,273	4,000	31,298	1,066	7,603	7,275	200	110
Males	50,373	54,204	29,343	18,664	6,010	1,500	3,664	24,203	748	5,070	4,788	203	88
Females	22,039	19,515	12,102	8,720	1,709	677	900	7,095	318	2,524	2,487	0	31
North Atlantic division:													
Both sexes	36,390	35,016	17,120	9,705	5,160	1,311	953	17,678	200	1,374	1,320	16	20
Males	25,653	24,770	12,114	6,651	3,801	903	600	12,523	133	883	840	10	18
Females	10,737	10,246	5,015	3,054	1,269	408	284	5,155	76	491	480	.....	11
South Atlantic division:													
Both sexes	7,227	4,273	3,491	2,974	233	101	183	694	88	2,054	2,048	1	5
Males	4,593	2,684	2,060	1,655	218	67	120	578	46	1,909	1,907	1	1
Females	2,634	1,589	1,431	1,319	15	34	63	116	42	1,045	1,041	.....	4
North Central division:													
Both sexes	20,479	10,370	11,258	8,326	1,446	460	1,017	7,655	457	1,100	1,080	3	17
Males	15,298	14,505	7,846	5,656	1,132	328	730	6,321	338	703	777	2	14
Females	5,181	4,865	3,412	2,670	314	141	287	1,334	119	316	312	1	3
South Central division:													
Both sexes	5,493	3,757	3,064	2,704	65	83	122	460	203	1,736	1,733	.....	3
Males	3,360	2,254	1,698	1,540	45	42	71	425	131	1,106	1,105	.....	1
Females	2,133	1,503	1,366	1,254	20	41	51	65	72	630	628	.....	2
Western division:													
Both sexes	11,823	11,303	6,503	3,585	824	300	1,785	4,781	109	430	176	180	65
Males	10,400	10,081	5,625	3,162	733	256	1,474	4,356	100	388	150	184	54
Females	1,354	1,312	878	423	91	53	311	425	9	42	26	5	11

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

Another view of the aggregates shown in Table VII may be obtained by leaving the questions of sex, color, nativity, and race for separate treatment, and reducing these aggregates for the main geographic divisions to per cents of the corresponding totals for the United States, as is done in the following tabular statement:

DIVISION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.		
	General population: 1900.	Paupers in almshouses: 1904.	
		Enumerated, December 31, 1903.	Admitted during 1904.
Continental United States.....	100.0	100.0	100.0
North Atlantic.....	27.7	40.7	44.7
South Atlantic.....	13.7	10.2	8.9
North Central.....	34.7	33.9	25.2
South Central.....	18.5	7.9	6.7
Western.....	5.4	7.3	14.5

Only the North Atlantic and Western divisions show percentages of almshouse inmates both for the number present on the given date and the number admitted during 1904 that are in excess of their respective percentages of general population. That the burden of pauper support bears most heavily on the states of the North Atlantic group is indisputable proof of the presence in the population of a greater number of persons who must be cared for through some form of indoor relief, for nowhere else are almshouses so amply supplemented by benevolent institutions and by charitable activities in general.

Yet the bare percentages given do not permit exact comparisons between geographic groups and produce a rather one-sided impression. The numerical strength of the almshouse population in a state stands in close relation to the kind of provisions made for the inmates. It is an old experience that ample and well-managed institutions attract inmates, and almshouses form no exception to the rule. The poorhouses of the South Atlantic and South Central states have not reached the same stage of development as those of the North Atlantic group. It is not so much the absence of dependents as the lack of proper conveniences for their support which explains in part the singularly favorable percentages exhibited by the Southern and Southwestern states. Climatic and industrial conditions and the sparsity of urban population aid, of course, in keeping their percentages of almshouse paupers low. Of perhaps even greater importance is the fact of the homogeneity and general stability of the white population in the Southern states. Nowhere else are family ties so strong and aid in time of need so abundant. It is rather exceptional that others than the "poor whites" seek the almshouses. The pressure of negroes for admittance would undoubtedly be greater but for their ability to subsist on a pittance.

Between the North Atlantic and North Central group of states there are no differences that invalidate a comparison of the percentages of paupers. The

states of the North Central division are among the foremost in methods of public care of dependents, but as they are younger and less congested, their burden is relatively lighter.

The Western division is in a class by itself on account of its recently developed almshouse systems and the combination in many places of hospital treatment with ordinary almshouse care.

To complete the view of the distribution of almshouse paupers in the United States, the aggregate enumerated on December 31, 1903, the aggregate admitted in 1904, and the rank in each class are given in Table VIII for states and territories.

TABLE VIII.—Rank of each state and territory in number of paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903; in number admitted to almshouses during 1904; and in general population, 1900.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	PAUPERS IN ALMS- HOUSES: 1904.		RANK OF STATE OR TERRI- TORY IN—		
	Enumer- ated, Decem- ber 31, 1903.	Admit- ted dur- ing 1904.	Number of pau- pers in alms- houses.		General popula- tion: 1900.
			Enumer- ated, De- cember 31, 1903.	Admit- ted dur- ing 1904.	
Continental United States...	81,764	81,412			
North Atlantic division...	33,278	36,300			
Maine.....	1,152	828	10	21	30
New Hampshire.....	1,140	645	20	27	36
Vermont.....	414	231	32	37	40
Massachusetts.....	5,034	8,398	4	3	7
Rhode Island.....	788	551	24	28	34
Connecticut.....	2,087	2,336	10	8	20
New York.....	10,793	12,073	1	1	1
New Jersey.....	1,930	1,589	12	12	16
Pennsylvania.....	9,054	9,738	2	2	2
South Atlantic division...	8,208	7,227			
Delaware.....	278	183	36	39	46
Maryland.....	1,633	1,017	16	11	26
District of Columbia.....	230	148	38	44	42
Virginia.....	1,915	2,159	13	9	17
West Virginia.....	881	719	23	25	28
North Carolina.....	1,510	863	18	20	15
South Carolina.....	686	432	27	33	24
Georgia.....	1,032	726	21	24	11
Florida.....	124	380	45	35	32
North Central division...	27,745	20,479			
Ohio.....	8,172	7,091	3	5	4
Indiana.....	3,120	1,800	7	10	8
Illinois.....	5,635	4,446	5	6	3
Michigan.....	2,594	2,472	8	7	9
Wisconsin.....	1,606	1,002	17	15	13
Minnesota.....	547	517	29	31	19
Iowa.....	2,019	896	11	19	10
Missouri.....	2,465	1,123	9	14	5
North Dakota.....	184	163	39	42	41
South Dakota.....	159	150	42	43	37
Nebraska.....	464	174	31	40	27
Kansas.....	780	555	25	28	22
South Central division...	6,457	5,493			
Kentucky.....	1,678	1,013	15	16	12
Tennessee.....	1,812	1,460	14	13	14
Alabama.....	761	748	26	23	18
Mississippi.....	517	227	30	38	20
Louisiana.....	149	75	43	47	23
Texas.....	913	901	22	18	6
Indian Territory.....					39
Oklahoma.....	52	87	47	46	38
Arkansas.....	575	982	28	17	25
Western division.....	5,986	11,823			
Montana.....	314	759	34	22	44
Wyoming.....					49
Colorado.....	398	694	33	26	31
New Mexico.....					45
Arizona.....	146	436	44	32	48
Utah.....	184	124	39	45	43
Nevada.....	171	347	41	36	50
Idaho.....	70	168	46	41	47
Washington.....	306	420	35	34	33
Oregon.....	257	545	37	30	35
California.....	4,140	8,330	6	4	21

Sex.—As shown in Table VII, of the almshouse inmates on December 31, 1903, 52,444 were males and 29,320 females. The corresponding figures for 1890 were 40,741 males and 32,304 females. Of the persons admitted to almshouses in 1904, 59,373 were males and 22,039 females. The clearly defined tendency toward a decreasing number of female paupers has already been noted.

Table IX shows for the main geographic divisions the per cent distribution, by sex, of the paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and of the paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904.

TABLE IX.—*Per cent distribution, by sex, of paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, for main geographic divisions.*

DIVISION.	PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.			
	Enumerated, December 31, 1903.		Admitted during 1904.	
	Per cent male.	Per cent female.	Per cent male.	Per cent female.
Continental United States.....	64.1	35.9	72.9	27.1
North Atlantic.....	63.6	36.4	70.5	29.5
South Atlantic.....	51.7	48.3	63.0	36.9
North Central.....	66.4	33.6	74.7	25.3
South Central.....	51.3	48.7	61.2	38.8
Western.....	87.4	12.6	88.5	11.5

An inspection of the figures for sex in the almshouse population, enumerated on December 31, 1903, shows that the proportion of males is larger than that of females, not only in continental United States, but in each of the main geographic divisions. Since the proportions of the sexes approach nearest to equality in the two southern divisions, it might seem at first glance as if the large negro element in their population were the predominant factor in producing this result, but an examination of the figures in Table VII indicates that such is not the case, for in each of these divisions the proportion of females is greater among the white than among the negro paupers. A further examination of these latter figures shows conclusively that the high percentage of females in these two divisions is for the most part due to the fact that there are more females than males among the native white paupers of native parentage.

The figures in Table 1 show that of the paupers enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903, there is a larger proportion of males than of females in every state except Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi, and that the difference between the proportions is greatest in the states of the Western division.

The fact that there is a marked preponderance of male paupers apparent in the country as a whole and in all sections except the South, considered in connection with the fact that in the general population, as enumerated at the census of 1900, the two sexes show

a relation of close approach to equality, indicates that outside the South pauperism is more prevalent among males than among females.

In order to compare the figures for 1903 with those for 1890 the following tabular statement is presented:

SEX.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1890.					
	Continental United States.	North Atlantic division.	South Atlantic division.	North Central division.	South Central division.	Western division.
Both sexes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Males.....	55.8	54.2	47.8	57.9	47.2	88.0
Females.....	44.2	45.8	52.2	42.1	52.8	12.0

A comparison of the above figures with those for the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, shows that the proportion of females among paupers has decreased in continental United States and in each main geographic division except the Western.

The sex distribution of persons admitted to almshouses in 1904 further emphasizes the declining ratios of females, but the figures slightly exaggerate the facts, for among the very many who are merely old cases readmitted, the males would naturally predominate. Women who have once reached the almshouse usually remain there permanently, while the men are to a large extent only winter boarders.

The data for the discussion of the proportion of each sex in the different elements of the almshouse population are found in Table X, which shows for paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and for paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904, the per cent distribution of each race and nativity class, by sex.

TABLE X.—*Per cent distribution, by sex, of paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, classified by color, nativity, and race.*

COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE.	PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.			
	Enumerated, December 31, 1903.		Admitted during 1904.	
	Per cent male.	Per cent female.	Per cent male.	Per cent female.
Aggregate.....	64.1	35.9	72.9	27.1
White.....	64.7	35.3	73.6	26.4
Native.....	59.7	40.3	70.8	29.2
Native parentage.....	57.4	42.6	68.2	31.8
Foreign parentage.....	70.4	29.6	77.0	23.0
Mixed parentage ¹	63.0	36.9	70.2	29.8
Parentage unknown.....	60.6	39.4	75.5	24.5
Foreign born.....	71.7	28.3	77.3	22.7
Nativity unknown.....	43.3	56.7	70.2	29.8
Colored.....	57.9	42.1	66.8	33.2
Negro.....	57.6	42.4	65.8	34.2
Mongolian.....	97.7	2.3	97.1	2.9
Indian.....	60.3	39.7	73.0	26.9

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

It is evident from an inspection of the figures in Table X for the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, that the disparity between the percentages of sex is particularly prominent in the case of white paupers

of foreign birth and of native white paupers of foreign parentage. The predominance of males in the general population of foreign birth would offer a reasonable explanation of the low percentage of female paupers of this class, and doubtless has some weight, but an explanation of this character has no validity in regard to native white paupers of foreign parentage, since they represent an element of the population in which the sexes are nearly equal in number. One would therefore expect the percentage of females for this class of paupers to be approximately the same as that for other native white paupers.

The view of the distribution of sexes obtained from the figures for admissions during 1904 is an indication of the greater mobility of the male almshouse population rather than evidence of the actual proportion of males and females admitted for the first time to any almshouse. It will be remembered that in the numbers shown as admitted to institutions during 1904 are included all those who, following the common custom of their class, migrated during the warm season and returned before winter. Nevertheless, the fact remains that women are a diminishing factor in the almshouse population, and that their numerical importance as compared with that of men is greater among other native whites than among native whites of foreign parentage.

Color.—As shown in Table VII, 74,854 white paupers and 6,910 colored (including 44 Mongolians and 73 Indians) were in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and 73,809 white and 7,603 colored (including 209 Mongolians and 119 Indians) were admitted during 1904.

Table XI gives percentages of colored and of white paupers in the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, and in the admissions during 1904, for states and territories.

The proportion of colored among paupers in almshouses in the United States was almost precisely the same in 1890 as on December 31, 1903. The variations after thirteen years in the different geographic divisions are also comparatively unimportant. Naturally the largest percentage of colored is shown by the South Atlantic division, with 34 per cent; the next largest is shown by the South Central group, with 30.1 per cent; and the lowest by the Western division, with 2.3 per cent. In the North Atlantic division the percentage of colored varies from 0.6 in Maine to 5.4 in New Jersey; in the South Atlantic states, from 13.3 in West Virginia to 61.7 in the District of Columbia, with the percentages of the two races nearly equal for Florida; in the North Central division, from 0.3 in Wisconsin to 10.2 in Missouri; in the South Central, from 3.8 in Oklahoma to 57.3 in Mississippi; and in the Western division, from 1.3 in Montana to 4.1 in Arizona. It is thus apparent that only in the District of Columbia and in Mississippi are the colored almshouse paupers in the majority. The percentage of

colored is also notably high in Virginia, with 43.8; in Florida, with 49.2; and in Alabama, with 48.9. The comparatively low percentages of colored among paupers in some states with a large negro population—for instance, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Louisiana—seem to indicate that colored dependents are probably not represented in the almshouses in proportion to their actual numbers in these communities, but rather according to the provisions made for their care.

TABLE XI.—Per cent distribution, by color, of paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, for states and territories.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.			
	Enumerated, December 31, 1903.		Admitted during 1904.	
	Per cent white.	Per cent colored.	Per cent white.	Per cent colored.
Continental United States.....	91.5	8.5	90.7	9.3
North Atlantic division.....	97.4	2.6	96.2	3.8
Maine.....	99.4	0.6	98.1	1.9
New Hampshire.....	99.1	0.9	98.9	1.1
Vermont.....	97.8	2.2	99.1	0.9
Massachusetts.....	98.6	1.4	96.9	3.1
Rhode Island.....	96.2	3.8	93.1	6.9
Connecticut.....	97.0	3.0	96.7	3.3
New York.....	98.0	2.0	97.5	2.5
New Jersey.....	94.6	5.4	94.3	5.7
Pennsylvania.....	90.0	4.0	94.0	6.0
South Atlantic division.....	66.0	34.0	59.1	40.9
Delaware.....	70.9	29.1	74.0	25.1
Maryland.....	77.2	22.8	74.0	26.0
District of Columbia.....	38.3	61.7	41.2	58.8
Virginia.....	50.2	43.8	47.6	52.4
West Virginia.....	80.7	13.3	80.0	13.4
North Carolina.....	62.8	37.2	54.6	45.4
South Carolina.....	60.9	39.1	50.9	49.1
Georgia.....	61.2	38.8	53.7	46.3
Florida.....	50.8	49.2	38.4	61.6
North Central division.....	95.9	4.1	94.0	5.4
Ohio.....	94.7	5.3	92.7	7.3
Indiana.....	90.3	3.7	94.7	5.3
Illinois.....	97.0	2.4	95.1	4.9
Michigan.....	98.0	2.0	96.6	3.4
Wisconsin.....	96.7	0.3	96.3	0.7
Minnesota.....	99.1	0.9	99.4	0.6
Iowa.....	98.1	1.9	97.5	2.5
Missouri.....	80.8	10.2	92.1	7.9
North Dakota.....	98.0	1.1	99.4	0.6
South Dakota.....	98.7	1.3	97.3	2.7
Nebraska.....	97.6	2.4	98.3	1.7
Kansas.....	90.1	9.9	89.4	10.6
South Central division.....	60.9	39.1	68.4	31.6
Kentucky.....	81.0	19.0	82.2	17.8
Tennessee.....	67.8	32.2	58.2	41.8
Alabama.....	61.1	48.9	40.1	59.9
Mississippi.....	42.7	57.3	39.2	60.8
Louisiana.....	84.6	15.4	88.0	12.0
Texas.....	77.3	22.7	87.1	12.9
Indian Territory.....				
Oklahoma.....	96.2	3.8	96.6	3.4
Arkansas.....	75.1	24.9	70.5	29.5
Western division.....	97.7	2.3	96.4	3.6
Montana.....	98.7	1.3	98.3	1.7
Wyoming.....				
Colorado.....	98.5	1.5	97.8	2.2
New Mexico.....				
Arizona.....	95.9	4.1	95.0	5.0
Utah.....	98.4	1.6	99.2	0.8
Nevada.....	100.0		97.7	2.3
Idaho.....	100.0		97.0	3.0
Washington.....	98.4	1.6	98.3	1.7
Oregon.....	98.1	1.9	97.6	2.4
California.....	97.4	2.6	95.8	4.2

The figures for pauper admissions in 1904 show in general a higher percentage of colored than the figures for the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, and in the District of Columbia, Virginia, Florida,

Alabama, and Mississippi there is an actual excess of negroes over white persons. It is known, however, that in a great many cases the admissions of negroes are really readmissions of former pauper inmates, and should, therefore, not be construed to mean that the percentage of colored almshouse population increases in twelve months in the proportion that a glance at the figures would seem to reveal.

Nativity of white paupers.—Table VII showed that out of 74,854 white paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, 42,205 were native and 32,136 foreign born, and that the numbers under both heads were slightly less for the paupers admitted during 1904. The details as to states and territories are given in Tables 4 and 5. Table XII gives the per cent distribution, by general nativity, of the white paupers of known nativity in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and of those admitted during 1904, for states and territories.

Of the total number of white paupers of known nativity in the almshouses of the United States on December 31, 1903, 56.8 per cent were native and 43.2 per cent foreign born. The percentages for 1890 were 57 and 43, respectively. The percentages for geographic divisions, on the other hand, have undergone some significant modifications which can best be exhibited in tabular form.

DIVISION.	WHITE PAUPERS OF KNOWN NATIVITY ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES.			
	Per cent native.		Per cent foreign born.	
	1903	1890	1903	1890
Continental United States.....	56.8	57.0	43.2	43.0
North Atlantic.....	48.2	51.6	51.8	48.4
South Atlantic.....	80.9	86.5	13.1	13.5
North Central.....	58.9	50.0	41.1	49.0
South Central.....	80.7	81.2	13.3	15.8
Western.....	43.9	39.2	56.1	60.8

The percentage of native white paupers has decreased in the North Atlantic states and remained about stationary in the South Atlantic division, but has increased in the remaining divisions. The foreign born white paupers are now in the majority in the North Atlantic and Western divisions. In 1890 this condition was even more pronounced in the Western division while it did not exist in the North Atlantic states, the only group in which the proportion of foreign born in the white almshouse population appears to have increased during the period 1890 to 1903.

The percentage of foreign born among white paupers is smallest in North Carolina, where it is only 0.0. Minnesota is at the opposite extreme, with 77.3 per cent foreign born. Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey of the North Atlantic states each have more foreign born white than native white pau-

pers in their almshouses. In each state of the South Atlantic group conditions are just the reverse.

TABLE XII. — *Per cent distribution, by nativity, of white paupers of known nativity enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, for states and territories.*

STATE OR TERRITORY.	WHITE PAUPERS OF KNOWN NATIVITY IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.			
	Enumerated, December 31, 1903.		Admitted during 1904.	
	Per cent native.	Per cent foreign born.	Per cent native.	Per cent foreign born.
Continental United States.....	56.8	43.2	57.0	43.0
North Atlantic division.....	48.2	51.8	49.2	50.8
Maine.....	73.0	26.4	69.7	30.3
New Hampshire.....	69.5	30.5	67.2	32.8
Vermont.....	75.5	24.5	73.0	27.0
Massachusetts.....	46.7	53.3	46.9	53.1
Rhode Island.....	56.1	43.9	53.1	46.9
Connecticut.....	45.3	54.7	50.9	49.1
New York.....	40.4	59.6	44.0	56.0
New Jersey.....	46.7	53.3	50.5	49.5
Pennsylvania.....	52.8	47.2	53.6	46.4
South Atlantic division.....	80.9	13.1	83.4	16.6
Delaware.....	73.0	26.4	78.1	21.9
Maryland.....	61.6	38.4	63.3	36.7
District of Columbia.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Virginia.....	90.7	3.3	92.3	7.7
West Virginia.....	80.3	19.7	88.0	11.4
North Carolina.....	90.1	0.0	90.1	0.0
South Carolina.....	92.6	7.4	90.7	9.3
Georgia.....	97.0	2.1	96.0	3.4
Florida.....	(1)	(1)	83.2	16.8
North Central division.....	58.9	41.1	59.5	40.5
Ohio.....	62.5	37.5	63.0	37.0
Indiana.....	78.3	21.7	80.0	20.0
Illinois.....	50.7	49.3	50.0	50.0
Michigan.....	57.1	42.9	56.5	43.5
Wisconsin.....	30.3	69.7	39.1	60.9
Minnesota.....	22.7	77.3	30.2	69.8
Iowa.....	61.7	38.3	64.8	35.2
Missouri.....	60.7	39.3	71.2	28.8
North Dakota.....	53.5	46.5	48.4	51.6
South Dakota.....	51.0	49.0	50.4	49.6
Nebraska.....	45.7	54.3	64.4	35.6
Kansas.....	69.5	30.5	73.5	26.5
South Central division.....	80.7	13.3	80.2	13.8
Kentucky.....	85.7	14.3	90.0	10.0
Tennessee.....	93.5	6.5	92.0	8.0
Alabama.....	96.0	4.0	91.8	8.2
Mississippi.....	90.8	9.2	(1)	(1)
Louisiana.....	44.0	56.0	(1)	(1)
Texas.....	74.5	25.5	72.8	27.2
Indian Territory.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Oklahoma.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Arkansas.....	90.5	9.5	89.9	10.1
Western division.....	43.9	56.1	57.6	42.4
Montana.....	48.1	51.9	50.2	49.8
Wyoming.....	52.4	47.6	65.0	35.0
Colorado.....	61.0	39.0	61.3	38.7
New Mexico.....	30.3	69.7	35.2	64.8
Arizona.....	46.3	53.7	61.7	38.3
Utah.....	(1)	(1)	63.7	36.3
Nevada.....	48.8	51.2	53.2	46.8
Idaho.....	61.4	38.6	63.9	36.1
Washington.....	40.0	60.0	57.2	42.8
Oregon.....				
California.....				

1 Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Several of the North Central states show a majority of foreign born white paupers; Wisconsin and Minnesota with 69.7 and 77.3 per cent, respectively, having the largest proportion of foreign born white paupers of all the states. In both these states, as well as in Nebraska, the foreign born white pauper contingents are decreasing in actual numbers, while the opposite is true of the North Atlantic states.

except New Jersey, in which the foreign born white paupers are in the majority.

Louisiana forms a curious exception among the states of the South Central division, since it shows an excess of foreign born over native white paupers, notwithstanding the fact that at the last census 92.9 per cent of the general white population was found to be native. The explanation is that outside of New Orleans with its comparatively large foreign contingent the almshouse paupers form an almost negligible number.

With the exception of Colorado, Arizona, and Oregon, all the states of the Western division support more foreign born than native white paupers in the almshouses; yet the tendency is strongly toward a diminished proportion of foreign born whites.

The returns covering 1904 yield on the whole a slightly higher percentage of native white paupers than the figures for the given date of 1903, which, however, is participated in only by the North Atlantic and North Central and Western divisions. In the two other groups the percentage of foreign born is a little higher and probably represents an actual gain of this element. The diminution in the percentages of foreign born whites among white paupers in states where they were found to be in the majority on a given date does not point to a decrease in their actual numbers, but indicates rather that the number of white paupers of a migratory character is relatively larger among the native whites than among the foreign born. Yet there are some exceptions, and in states like Maine, New Hampshire, Michigan, North Dakota, and Utah the increased percentage of foreign born whites probably represents an actual gain.

Parentage of native white paupers.—According to Table VII, out of 42,205 native white paupers in the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, there were 31,944 of native parentage, 5,777 of foreign, and 1,902 of mixed parentage. The parentage of 2,582 could not be ascertained. The corresponding figures for paupers admitted in 1904 show that of 41,445 native white, there were 27,384 of native, 7,728 of foreign, 2,273 of mixed parentage, with 4,060 of unknown parentage. No reasonable comparisons can be made with the census returns of 1890 on account of the large number returned in that year as of unknown parentage.

Table XIII shows, for the white paupers of known parentage in each state and territory, the per cent distribution by parentage of those enumerated on December 31, 1903, and of those admitted during 1904.

TABLE XIII.—*Per cent distribution, by nativity of parents, of native white paupers of known parentage enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, for states and territories.*

STATE OR TERRITORY.	NATIVE WHITE PAUPERS OF KNOWN PARENTAGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.					
	Enumerated, December 31, 1903.			Admitted during 1904.		
	Per cent of native parentage.	Per cent of foreign parentage.	Per cent of mixed parentage. ¹	Per cent of native parentage.	Per cent of foreign parentage.	Per cent of mixed parentage. ¹
Continental United States.....	80.6	14.6	4.8	73.2	20.7	6.1
North Atlantic division.....	71.8	22.4	5.8	60.0	31.9	8.1
Maine.....	84.0	12.8	3.2	70.8	24.1	5.1
New Hampshire.....	87.4	9.9	2.7	67.6	25.6	6.8
Vermont.....	86.1	6.1	7.8	80.8	14.1	5.1
Massachusetts.....	60.3	32.4	7.3	38.7	48.1	13.2
Rhode Island.....	71.8	22.4	5.8	60.9	26.6	12.5
Connecticut.....	67.6	29.2	3.2	52.0	42.9	5.1
New York.....	67.8	26.3	5.9	59.0	32.7	8.3
New Jersey.....	71.6	23.0	6.4	62.1	30.1	7.8
Pennsylvania.....	77.4	16.2	6.4	76.1	18.9	5.0
South Atlantic division.....	93.1	4.4	2.5	89.9	7.0	3.1
Delaware.....	79.6	14.8	5.6	70.1	23.4	6.5
Maryland.....	81.4	14.4	4.2	71.1	24.3	4.6
District of Columbia.....	70.7	24.1	5.2	100.0	.....	.....
Virginia.....	96.4	1.0	2.6	96.2	1.2	2.6
West Virginia.....	95.3	3.1	1.6	95.1	0.6	4.3
North Carolina.....	99.6	0.3	0.1	99.3	.....	0.7
South Carolina.....	94.8	2.9	2.3	91.0	4.7	3.7
Georgia.....	94.8	1.3	3.9	97.7	0.6	1.7
Florida.....	85.0	7.5	7.5	96.3	3.7	.....
North Central division.....	83.1	12.4	4.5	81.3	14.1	4.6
Ohio.....	84.7	11.0	4.3	85.7	11.3	3.0
Indiana.....	88.2	8.1	3.7	90.3	5.9	3.8
Illinois.....	82.9	13.0	3.2	81.3	13.6	5.1
Michigan.....	73.8	17.2	9.0	65.0	27.8	7.2
Wisconsin.....	63.6	30.8	5.6	59.7	32.5	7.8
Minnesota.....	62.4	30.8	6.8	75.3	21.0	3.7
Iowa.....	81.0	13.7	4.4	80.8	13.5	5.7
Missouri.....	88.5	8.4	3.1	88.8	6.1	5.1
North Dakota.....	62.4	28.2	9.4	54.0	39.2	6.8
South Dakota.....	60.0	28.3	11.7	56.2	34.4	9.4
Nebraska.....	83.3	10.6	6.1	83.2	10.1	6.7
Kansas.....	88.1	6.1	5.8	88.5	8.1	3.4
South Central division.....	94.7	2.3	3.0	95.0	2.2	2.8
Kentucky.....	94.9	2.8	2.3	92.2	2.0	5.8
Tennessee.....	95.5	1.0	3.5	94.6	3.6	1.8
Alabama.....	95.7	1.7	2.6	98.4	0.5	1.1
Mississippi.....	96.6	1.0	2.4	100.0	.....	.....
Louisiana.....	70.4	20.4	6.2	66.7	24.2	9.1
Texas.....	92.9	3.1	4.0	94.0	2.3	3.7
Indian Territory.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oklahoma.....	88.0	12.0	.....	97.0	1.5	1.5
Arkansas.....	96.0	1.6	2.4	98.8	0.4	0.8
Western division.....	74.6	18.2	7.2	76.0	17.5	6.5
Montana.....	70.9	15.4	7.7	84.9	10.6	4.5
Wyoming.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Colorado.....	74.7	16.5	8.8	78.2	16.0	5.8
New Mexico.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona.....	82.7	9.3	8.0	82.2	15.5	2.3
Utah.....	62.7	31.4	5.9	77.8	16.7	5.5
Nevada.....	77.6	16.4	6.0	78.0	19.5	2.5
Idaho.....	76.7	13.3	10.0	82.1	9.5	8.4
Washington.....	75.5	20.9	3.6	82.1	16.0	1.9
Oregon.....	88.2	8.3	3.5	84.4	7.8	7.8
California.....	72.7	19.6	7.7	73.3	19.1	7.6

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

It may be noted that a comparatively small proportion of the native white paupers are of foreign parent-

age, although, as shown by Table XII, the foreign born white constitute a comparatively large proportion of the total number of white paupers. A more interesting and significant contrast, however, is that presented by the following tabular statement in which the distribution by birth and parentage of the white pauper population is compared with the corresponding distribution of the white general population:

DIVISION.	PER CENT OF WHITE GENERAL POPULATION: 1900.				PER CENT OF WHITE PAUPER POPULATION, DECEMBER 31, 1903.			
	Native.			For- eign born.	Native.			For- eign born.
	Nati- ve par- ents.	Foreign parents.			Nati- ve par- ents.	Foreign parents.		
		Both for- eign born.	One nati- ve and one for- eign born.			Both for- eign born.	One nati- ve and one for- eign born.	
Continental United States.....	61.3	15.9	7.5	15.3	46.4	7.8	2.6	43.2
North Atlantic.....	48.1	20.6	8.3	23.0	35.2	10.3	2.7	51.8
South Atlantic.....	91.1	3.5	2.3	3.1	81.1	3.7	2.1	13.1
North Central.....	54.9	19.6	9.4	16.1	49.7	6.7	2.5	41.1
South Central.....	89.2	4.2	3.0	3.6	82.3	1.9	2.5	13.3
Western.....	52.2	17.5	10.7	19.6	34.3	6.9	2.7	50.1

From an inspection of these figures it is apparent that the foreign born white have a much stronger representation in the pauper population than in the general population, while the reverse is true of the native white of foreign parentage. The question then arises, why should there be this difference? Or, to put it differently, if the foreign born add so largely to the almshouse population, why is this not equally true of their descendants?

A conclusive answer is found in a study of the distribution by age of the elements of population under consideration. Pauperism is largely a phenomenon of advanced age. As will be shown later in detail, about 73 per cent of the paupers are admitted to almshouses after the age of 40 and about 60 per cent after the fiftieth year of life. If, then, the native white paupers of foreign parentage should figure with large percentages in the tables, it would imply a correspondingly large representation of foreign born white in the population of forty and fifty years ago. But this is contrary to fact. Immigration on a large scale is an event of later years, and since dependence is an accompaniment of old age rather than of youth, it is impossible that the descendants of foreign born parents should as yet come strongly to the fore in the pauper statistics.

At the census of 1900 it was found that of the native white population of all ages, 72.3 per cent had native parents and only 27.7 per cent foreign born parents. But if the age groups 40 to 64 are examined, it will be found that the percentage of native whites of native

parentage is in an ascending scale, while the reverse is true of native white of foreign parentage, as shown in the following tabular statement:

AGE.	NATIVE WHITE GENERAL POPULATION: 1900.	
	Per cent of native parentage.	Per cent of foreign parentage.
40 to 44 years.....	72.9	27.1
45 to 49 years.....	78.9	21.1
50 to 54 years.....	84.8	15.2
55 to 59 years.....	87.4	12.6
60 to 64 years.....	89.8	10.2

Since pauperism is generally a misfortune of old age and not of youth, it is impossible that the native born whites of foreign parentage over 40 years of age should contribute large totals to the present number of inmates of almshouses, because of their relatively slight representation in the population at large. Whether the percentages shown of native white paupers of foreign parentage are not on the whole rather in advance of the numerical strength of this element in the country as well as in the same states is an open question; but it would be a perfectly natural condition. In most communities the native born white of foreign parentage is less advantageously placed when want or sickness overtakes him than the native white of native stock, who can count upon the aid of relatives and friends. In many of the older states, especially in the South, the stability of the native stock with its extensive family ties no doubt saves many from the almshouse life which the more isolated person of foreign parentage may be compelled to seek as a last resort.

The percentages of native white paupers of foreign parentage range uniformly higher among the admissions for the year 1904 than in the population on the given date. This is in keeping with the fact that persons of this description past middle age are rapidly growing in number.

Only 4.8 per cent of the native white paupers enumerated in 1903 are of mixed parentage. The percentages of white paupers of mixed parentage vary from 0.1 in North Carolina to 11.7 in South Dakota and are too insignificant to affect the general deductions from Table XIII in regard to the numerical relation of native white paupers of native parentage and those of foreign parentage.

Nationality of foreign born white paupers.—Tables 7 and 8 (pages 99 and 100) show the birthplace of foreign born white paupers, for states and territories.

Table XIV shows, for states and territories, the per cent distribution of the foreign born white paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, by country of birth, and Table XV a similar per cent distribution of those admitted during 1904.

Since no population figures are at hand for 1903 with distinction as to country of birth, it is impracticable to show the exact ratio of white paupers of foreign nationality to the total representation of the same nationality in the United States. A reasonably accurate knowledge of the proportion in which the various foreign nationalities contribute to the almshouse population may be had, however, by comparing the percentage of white paupers of the nationalities enumerated with the percentages of the same nationalities in the general population, as stated in the Twelfth Census.

In Table xvi there is given for the purposes of this comparison a summary compiled from the population returns of 1900, which shows the numerical relation which natives of each of the foreign countries under consideration bear to the total foreign born population in the United States and in each main geographic division. The detailed percentages for countries other than those enumerated have been omitted as unnecessary for the purposes of the present analysis. The influx of immigrants since 1900 has no doubt modified the following percentages, but not to an extent that materially detracts from the value of the comparisons.

TABLE XIV.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH, OF FOREIGN BORN WHITE PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	PER CENT OF FOREIGN BORN WHITE PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, BORN IN—										
	Ireland.	Germany.	England and Wales.	Canada.	Scandinavia.	Scotland.	Italy.	France.	Hungary and Bohemia.	Russia and Poland.	Other countries.
Continental United States.....	46.4	23.3	8.7	4.8	4.9	2.5	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.5	4.5
North Atlantic division.....	59.2	16.3	8.9	5.3	1.6	2.3	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.4	2.7
Maine.....	43.4	1.3	9.6	37.8	3.7	2.6	0.3	.....	.....	.....	1.3
New Hampshire.....	46.7	3.6	12.4	28.4	3.2	3.6	.....	0.9	.....	0.3	0.9
Vermont.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	.....	.....	(2)
Massachusetts.....	70.1	2.9	9.7	10.3	1.0	2.6	0.7	0.1	.....	0.9	1.7
Rhode Island.....	63.0	2.1	17.5	6.9	2.1	4.8	1.5	.....	.....	0.0	1.5
Connecticut.....	71.9	8.4	7.4	2.4	2.7	2.7	0.4	0.4	0.1	2.0	1.6
New York.....	62.4	18.7	6.3	3.3	1.7	2.0	1.2	1.0	0.2	1.1	2.1
New Jersey.....	50.6	20.7	9.0	0.7	1.3	2.4	1.5	1.1	0.2	1.1	1.5
Pennsylvania.....	45.1	27.3	11.6	0.7	1.6	2.0	1.2	0.7	2.0	2.4	5.4
South Atlantic division.....	45.1	33.3	5.9	1.5	2.0	4.1	0.7	1.5	0.4	2.1	3.4
Delaware.....	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
Maryland.....	40.2	41.8	5.0	0.7	1.4	3.8	0.4	1.1	0.4	2.5	2.7
District of Columbia.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	.....	(2)	.....
Virginia.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
West Virginia.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)
North Carolina.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)
South Carolina.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)
Georgia.....	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	.....	(2)
Florida.....	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	(2)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(2)
North Central division.....	29.6	35.8	7.8	4.2	9.4	2.2	0.5	1.5	1.8	2.0	5.2
Ohio.....	36.5	39.4	9.0	1.4	0.8	1.7	0.8	1.2	2.0	1.1	5.2
Indiana.....	35.9	37.9	9.1	1.7	4.6	1.2	0.3	2.9	0.5	2.0	3.9
Illinois.....	32.8	33.2	7.2	2.6	13.2	2.1	0.4	1.4	1.3	2.3	3.5
Michigan.....	20.3	27.3	9.9	18.2	6.6	4.7	0.5	2.6	0.1	1.4	9.0
Wisconsin.....	14.6	50.9	4.5	4.1	9.5	1.3	0.2	0.3	2.6	6.0	6.0
Minnesota.....	15.3	24.3	4.3	4.5	41.3	1.7	0.2	1.0	1.7	2.4	3.3
Iowa.....	25.4	33.9	7.2	3.3	16.2	1.4	0.1	1.7	7.2	0.3	3.3
Missouri.....	41.2	34.7	4.1	2.9	4.5	1.8	0.4	2.3	0.3	1.3	6.5
North Dakota.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
South Dakota.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Nebraska.....	20.8	31.3	5.3	2.9	13.0	2.9	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.4	15.0
Kansas.....	20.6	32.2	14.5	0.1	7.9	7.0	1.4	2.8	1.4	1.4	4.7
South Central division.....	43.1	25.0	7.3	1.5	2.2	2.0	1.0	4.1	1.5	1.3	10.1
Kentucky.....	54.9	29.0	5.2	2.1	0.5	1.6	.....	3.1	.....	0.5	3.1
Tennessee.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
Alabama.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	.....	(2)
Mississippi.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	.....	.....	(2)
Louisiana.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	(2)
Texas.....	22.4	27.0	10.1	.....	2.2	2.8	1.1	3.4	5.0	2.2	22.0
Indian Territory.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Oklahoma.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
Arkansas.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
Western division.....	38.0	15.0	11.9	5.6	7.5	4.0	2.4	4.3	0.1	0.6	10.6
Montana.....	30.2	14.3	11.8	10.5	10.5	5.0	.....	2.5	.....	.....	5.6
Wyoming.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Colorado.....	34.4	14.5	15.1	4.8	12.4	7.0	1.1	1.6	0.6	1.0	7.0
New Mexico.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
Utah.....	5.3	6.1	43.9	.....	30.7	6.1	1.7	0.9	.....	0.9	4.4
Nevada.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
Idaho.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	.....	.....	(2)	(2)
Washington.....	32.7	18.3	12.4	10.4	14.4	3.3	2.6	2.0	.....	0.6	3.3
Oregon.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)
California.....	41.0	15.0	9.6	5.1	5.7	3.7	2.8	5.2	0.1	0.5	11.3

¹ Includes Newfoundland.

² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.

TABLE XV.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH, OF FOREIGN BORN WHITE PAUPERS ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, FOR STATES AND TERRITORIES.

STATE OR TERRITORY.	PER CENT OF FOREIGN BORN WHITE PAUPERS ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, BORN IN—										
	Ireland.	Germany.	England and Wales.	Canada. ¹	Scandinavia.	Scotland.	Italy.	France.	Hungary and Bohemia.	Russia and Poland.	Other countries.
Continental United States.....	41.2	18.4	8.8	6.5	4.9	2.6	3.1	1.3	1.5	3.4	8.3
North Atlantic division.....	50.8	13.7	8.8	7.5	1.8	2.4	3.4	0.8	1.0	4.1	5.7
Maine.....	34.0	2.1	7.3	42.6	.....	4.1	0.4	4.9	0.4	2.1	2.1
New Hampshire.....	33.6	2.4	0.3	44.4	2.9	3.9	1.5	.....	.....	1.5	0.5
Vermont.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	.....
Massachusetts.....	53.0	1.6	11.2	16.1	1.7	3.0	3.0	0.4	.....	3.6	5.5
Rhode Island.....	54.2	2.5	13.0	15.5	2.1	3.8	1.7	1.3	.....	1.7	4.2
Connecticut.....	61.9	8.3	7.3	3.3	4.0	2.4	4.2	0.1	0.5	3.8	4.2
New York.....	54.3	18.7	6.4	4.3	2.0	2.0	3.5	0.9	0.6	3.3	4.0
New Jersey.....	55.0	23.3	8.6	6.5	1.0	1.6	2.1	0.7	0.7	1.8	4.7
Pennsylvania.....	40.8	20.2	10.4	0.8	1.2	2.2	3.9	1.0	3.2	6.6	0.7
South Atlantic division.....	45.2	25.2	9.1	2.0	2.9	2.9	1.7	1.2	1.2	3.6	5.0
Delaware.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)
Maryland.....	43.7	31.7	6.6	1.6	2.5	3.0	0.7	0.7	1.4	3.7	4.4
Distriet of Columbia.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(²)
Virginia.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
West Virginia.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)
North Carolina.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	(²)	(²)
South Carolina.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	.....	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Georgia.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)
Florida.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)
North Central division.....	27.4	30.0	7.9	5.5	9.6	2.5	1.4	1.4	3.2	3.6	7.5
Ohio.....	20.4	28.9	9.5	2.9	1.8	2.0	3.2	1.2	6.6	4.3	10.2
Indiana.....	39.8	28.1	9.3	1.8	4.2	3.0	0.6	1.5	2.4	3.9	5.4
Illinois.....	32.9	30.7	6.6	2.3	13.2	2.2	0.9	1.4	1.8	3.8	4.2
Michigan.....	19.7	26.6	10.3	10.7	5.0	4.4	0.6	1.4	0.2	2.4	9.7
Wisconsin.....	11.9	45.9	4.4	4.7	15.6	1.3	.....	0.6	1.0	6.7	7.0
Minnesota.....	14.7	18.7	3.7	8.6	35.9	3.4	0.3	2.5	0.9	.....	11.3
Iowa.....	23.0	36.5	8.4	1.7	15.5	2.4	1.0	1.3	5.4	0.7	4.1
Missouri.....	43.3	35.1	8.5	1.8	2.1	1.8	0.7	2.1	.....	0.7	3.0
North Dakota.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)
South Dakota.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)
Nebraska.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Kansas.....	35.7	17.5	7.9	4.8	11.1	3.2	.....	7.1	2.4	2.4	7.9
South Central division.....	20.0	20.8	6.5	3.1	2.9	2.2	1.2	4.5	0.4	2.0	18.4
Kentucky.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	.....	.....	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Tennessee.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Alabama.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Mississippi.....	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Louisiana.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Texas.....	21.1	22.5	7.4	3.4	2.0	2.4	.....	2.4	1.0	3.0	34.8
Indian Territory.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Oklahoma.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Arkansas.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Western division.....	28.4	14.7	10.3	5.7	9.2	3.8	5.3	2.0	0.3	0.9	18.5
Montana.....	38.1	14.9	8.3	12.7	8.0	4.4	0.8	2.2	.....	1.4	8.6
Wyoming.....	28.7	15.2	14.8	4.8	10.5	2.6	2.2	1.3	1.3	3.9	8.7
Colorado.....	11.8	16.5	7.2	2.6	6.6	3.3	4.0	.....	.....	0.7	46.7
Utah.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)	(²)
Nevada.....	30.3	11.8	.....	.....	12.6	2.5	.....	3.4	.....	.....	16.8
Idaho.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	(²)	.....	(²)	(²)
Washington.....	23.7	11.0	13.7	9.5	21.6	6.3	2.6	1.0	2.1	.....	7.9
Oregon.....	17.5	24.3	9.0	8.5	20.6	3.7	4.8	2.1	0.5	.....	9.0
California.....	29.3	14.5	9.8	4.7	7.1	3.5	6.2	3.4	0.3	0.8	20.4

¹ Includes Newfoundland.² Percent not shown where base is less than 100.

TABLE XVI.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH, OF FOREIGN BORN GENERAL POPULATION, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1900.

DIVISION.	PER CENT OF FOREIGN BORN GENERAL POPULATION IN 1900, BORN IN—										
	Ireland.	Germany.	England and Wales.	Canada. ¹	Scandinavia.	Scotland.	Italy.	France.	Hungary and Bohemia.	Russia and Poland.	Other countries.
Continental United States.....	15.0	25.8	9.0	11.4	10.3	2.3	4.7	1.0	2.9	7.8	9.2
North Atlantic.....	23.4	18.6	10.1	13.6	3.7	2.5	7.4	0.9	2.7	10.0	7.1
South Atlantic.....	10.0	33.7	10.2	3.2	1.9	3.0	4.0	1.1	2.5	10.6	12.0
North Central.....	8.4	35.1	7.1	10.2	18.2	1.7	7.3	0.7	3.7	6.7	6.9
South Central.....	8.9	30.7	6.7	2.9	3.2	1.7	1.3	3.3	3.5	4.0	27.8
Western.....	9.9	16.0	13.3	16.6	13.7	3.3	4.8	2.0	0.5	1.8	24.1

¹ Includes Newfoundland.

Almshouse paupers born in Ireland formed 46.4 per cent of all foreign born white inmates on December 31, 1903—a proportion about three times as large as the percentage of the Irish born (15.6) among the total foreign born, according to the census of 1900. The Irish furnished 23.4 per cent of the foreign born inhabitants of the North Atlantic division, but 59.2 per cent of its foreign born white paupers. The other geographic groups show similar excesses of almshouse inmates of Irish birth over the relative number of Irish born in the foreign born population; this is likewise true, without exception, of the different states for which the figures yield reliable rates.

The German born constituted 25.8 per cent of the foreign born population in the United States in 1900, and contributed 23.3 per cent of the foreign born white paupers in 1903. In the South Atlantic and North Central divisions the percentages of German born paupers bear close relation to the percentages which natives of Germany formed of the foreign born population. In the North Atlantic, South Central, and Western divisions, the Germans appear to have contributed a relatively smaller quota of paupers.

Natives of England and Wales formed 9 per cent of the foreign born population in the United States, and 8.7 per cent of all foreign born white inmates of almshouses. In the North Central and South Central divisions, however, the percentages of foreign born white paupers born in England and Wales are in excess of the representation of England and Wales in the foreign born population.

Immigrants from Canada furnished 11.4 per cent of the foreign born population and 4.8 per cent of the foreign born white paupers. In the geographic divisions where they are present in some strength, the Canadians do not contribute more than their quota to the almshouse population. This holds good even of Maine and New Hampshire where the percentages given in Table xv appear excessive for the Canadians.

Sweden, Norway, and Denmark contributed 10.3 per cent of the foreign born population and 4.9 per cent of the foreign born white paupers.

In the North Central and Western divisions the Scandinavians constituted respectively 18.2 and 13.7 per cent of the foreign born inhabitants, but only 9.4 and 7.5 per cent of the foreign born white paupers.

Of the remaining countries, the returns yield distinctly favorable percentages for Italy, Hungary and Bohemia, and Russia and Poland; that is, the proportion which these countries contributed to the foreign

born white pauper population is considerably less than their representation in the foreign born population. This is not true of Scotland and France. The figures for France are perhaps too small to permit generalizations.

The percentages of foreign born white paupers admitted in 1904 are chiefly significant as indicating an increase in the number of paupers born in Italy, Russia (including Poland), and other foreign countries not specified.

The contrasts between different nationalities as regards representation in almshouses do not appear to be determined so much by the period of immigration as by differences in the degree of thrift combined with more or less pronounced racial and family traits. Greater virility of stock and comparative freedom from common vices are also strong factors in determining these contrasts. The greater concentration in cities of some nationalities than of others does not appear to influence greatly their representation in almshouses.

Length of residence in the United States of foreign born paupers.—Tables 10 and 11 (pages 101 and 103) show the distribution, by reported years of residence in the United States, of the foreign born paupers, classified by race and sex, for main geographic divisions. Table xvii gives the per cent distribution, by length of residence in the United States, of the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, and of those admitted during 1904, classified by sex, for main geographic divisions.

So far as the inmates of almshouses on the given date are concerned, the table lends no support whatsoever to the contention that large numbers of immigrants have drifted into the almshouses soon after their arrival in the United States. Only 2.3 per cent of all the foreign born found in the almshouses on December 31, 1903, had resided in the United States for the brief space of five years or less, whereas 96.1 per cent are said to have lived here for ten years or more. In 1890 the percentage of foreign born male paupers whose length of residence extended to ten years and beyond was slightly lower, being 91.6 per cent for the country as a whole.

The proportions of the foreign born paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, who have lived in this country at least ten years, are remarkably uniform in the different divisions; this is true both of the total foreign born and of the foreign born of each sex, the percentages varying only from 93.5 to 97.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.

TABLE XVII.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN THE UNITED STATES, OF FOREIGN BORN PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, AND OF THOSE ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS.

YEARS OF RESIDENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.	FOREIGN BORN PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.																	
	Continental United States.			North Atlantic division.			South Atlantic division.			North Central division.			South Central division.			Western division.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
Per cent distribution of those enumerated, December 31, 1903.																		
All known years.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 1 year.....	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.3	2.7	1.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
1 year.....	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.2
2 years.....	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.9	1.1
3 years.....	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.4
4 years.....	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
5 years.....	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.6	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
6 years.....	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
7 years.....	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.3	1.0	1.3
8 years.....	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
9 years.....	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.6
10 years and over.....	96.1	96.2	96.0	96.3	96.3	96.1	96.5	96.6	96.4	96.3	96.6	95.5	94.3	93.5	97.0	94.6	94.6	95.0
Per cent distribution of those admitted during 1904.																		
All known years.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 1 year.....	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.2	2.3	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.6	3.0	1.0	1.0	0.8
1 year.....	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.3	1.4	0.9	2.5	2.2	3.7	14.0	14.1	13.7	3.9	4.0	2.3
2 years.....	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.3	1.0	2.8	4.3	4.0	5.3	2.9	3.1	2.0	3.2	3.1	4.6
3 years.....	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.1	1.0	1.9	2.4	1.1	0.9	2.0	2.0	2.9	2.9	3.1
4 years.....	1.4	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.1	1.8	1.4	1.5	0.9	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.7
5 years.....	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.0	2.1	0.9	1.6	1.4	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.0	0.8
6 years.....	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.8	0.4
7 years.....	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.3
8 years.....	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.2	0.5	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.5
9 years.....	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.4	1.8	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.4
10 years and over.....	84.6	84.8	84.1	86.0	86.4	84.9	87.6	87.5	88.2	84.1	84.7	81.6	73.3	72.8	76.4	79.3	79.1	81.1

A less favorable but probably truer picture of prevailing conditions is found in the figures showing length of residence in the United States of foreign born paupers admitted to almshouses in 1904. No less than 4.4 per cent of those admitted during 1904 are reported as having resided in the United States for one year or under, while only 0.6 per cent of the foreign born inmates of almshouses on December 31, 1903, are so reported. Nearly 12 per cent of the admissions were

of persons who had lived here for not more than five years, while for the inmates on the specified date the corresponding per cent was only 2.3.

Present age.—Table xviii, based on Table 12 (page 105), gives for each sex the distribution, by quinquennial age periods, of all paupers of known age under 100 years, who were either enumerated on December 31, 1903, or admitted to almshouses during 1904.

TABLE XVIII.—DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF PAUPERS OF KNOWN AGE UNDER 100 YEARS, IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.

AGE.	PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.						PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL POPULATION: 1900.		
	Number.			Per cent distribution.			Total.	Male.	Female.
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.			
All known ages under 100 years.....	160,066	110,039	49,967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	4,635	2,426	2,209	2.9	2.2	4.4	12.1	12.0	12.2
5 to 9 years.....	2,516	1,424	1,092	1.6	1.3	2.2	11.7	11.6	11.8
10 to 14 years.....	1,976	1,143	833	1.2	1.0	1.7	10.7	10.5	10.8
15 to 19 years.....	3,730	1,910	1,811	2.3	1.7	3.6	10.0	9.7	10.3
20 to 24 years.....	6,867	4,034	2,833	4.3	3.7	5.7	9.7	9.4	10.0
25 to 29 years.....	6,968	4,437	2,531	4.4	4.0	5.1	8.6	8.6	8.6
30 to 34 years.....	7,536	4,913	2,623	4.7	4.5	5.2	7.3	7.5	7.2
35 to 39 years.....	8,868	6,117	2,740	5.6	5.6	5.5	6.5	6.8	6.3
40 to 44 years.....	10,264	7,307	2,957	6.4	6.6	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.4
45 to 49 years.....	11,094	8,045	3,049	6.9	7.3	6.1	4.6	4.7	4.4
50 to 54 years.....	13,503	9,958	3,545	8.4	9.1	7.1	3.9	4.0	3.7
55 to 59 years.....	12,945	9,670	3,269	8.1	8.8	6.5	2.9	3.0	2.9
60 to 64 years.....	16,311	11,802	4,509	10.2	10.7	9.0	2.4	2.4	2.4
65 to 69 years.....	15,499	11,284	4,215	9.7	10.3	8.4	1.7	1.7	1.7
70 to 74 years.....	15,184	10,808	4,376	9.5	9.8	8.8	1.2	1.2	1.2
75 to 79 years.....	11,053	7,727	3,326	6.9	7.0	6.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
80 to 84 years.....	6,891	4,480	2,381	4.3	4.1	4.8	0.3	0.3	0.3
85 to 89 years.....	2,854	1,755	1,099	1.8	1.6	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
90 to 94 years.....	1,017	601	416	0.6	0.5	0.8	(1)	(1)	(1)
95 to 99 years.....	327	183	144	0.2	0.2	0.3	(1)	(1)	(1)

1 Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The age distribution of the almshouse population as compared with that of the general population in 1900 shows marked peculiarities, the most significant of which is the increase in the proportion in each successive age group between 10 and 65 years, except 55 to 59 years, instead of the gradual decrease characteristic of the general population. That pauperism is largely an accompaniment of old age is evidenced by the fact that the increase in the proportion of paupers in the successive age groups is more marked between 35 and 64 years than in the earlier ages, and by the further fact that only 21.4 per cent of the almshouse population is under 35, while the corresponding per cent for the general population is 70.1. The proportion for paupers reaches a maximum in the age group 60 to 64 years and then declines slowly until the age of 75 years, after which the decrease becomes accelerated. Even in the age group 75 to 79 years, however, the proportion is as large as in the group 45 to 49 years and considerably larger than in the earlier periods. In the age period 80 to 84 years it has declined until it is only equal to

the proportion in the group 20 to 24 years. After 85 years the proportions are very small but are still larger than the corresponding figures for the general population, thus further illustrating the relation between age and pauperism.

Considered by sex, it is seen that relatively more females than males are found in the age groups comprising those of early life and extreme old age. Nevertheless the largest percentages are found for both sexes in the three age groups, 60 to 64, 65 to 69, and 70 to 74 years. One reason for the greater concentration of female than of male paupers in the age group 15 to 39 years is the fact that numbers of women resort to these institutions at, or soon after, childbirth.

Table 12 shows the numerical distribution, by quinquennial age periods, of the paupers in almshouses, classified by color, nativity, and race. It includes both the population of almshouses on December 31, 1903, and persons admitted during 1904. The corresponding per cent distribution for paupers of known age under 100 years is given in Table XIX.

TABLE XIX.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF PAUPERS OF KNOWN AGE UNDER 100 YEARS, IN ALMSHOUSES CLASSIFIED BY COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE: 1904.

AGE.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.												
	Aggre- gate.	White.								Colored.			
		Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity un- known.	Total.	Negro.	Mongol- ian.	Indian.
			Total.	Native parent- age.	Foreign parent- age.	Mixed parent- age. ¹	Parent- age un- known.						
All known ages under 100 years.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	2.0	2.8	4.8	4.4	5.0	13.2	3.4	0.1	6.1	3.8	3.9	.....	3.0
5 to 9 years.....	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.6	2.2	4.4	2.3	0.1	2.3	1.8	1.8	.....	2.8
10 to 14 years.....	1.2	1.2	2.0	2.1	1.4	2.2	1.8	0.2	1.0	1.7	1.7	0.4	5.5
15 to 19 years.....	2.3	2.1	3.1	3.1	2.5	3.3	3.9	0.8	1.8	5.0	5.0	4.0	7.2
20 to 24 years.....	4.3	3.8	5.0	5.0	4.3	5.5	7.1	2.3	4.1	9.2	9.0	17.6	8.8
25 to 29 years.....	4.4	4.0	5.1	4.8	5.6	5.2	6.2	2.6	4.8	7.8	7.7	14.4	8.8
30 to 34 years.....	4.7	4.9	5.6	5.1	7.3	6.1	6.6	3.1	5.0	6.2	6.1	14.4	6.6
35 to 39 years.....	5.6	5.5	6.4	5.9	8.6	5.9	7.4	4.2	5.5	6.5	6.4	9.6	8.8
40 to 44 years.....	6.4	6.5	7.4	6.5	11.2	7.0	8.2	5.2	7.7	6.0	5.8	12.8	7.7
45 to 49 years.....	6.9	7.1	8.0	7.2	11.7	7.0	8.3	5.8	8.3	5.2	5.2	8.0	2.8
50 to 54 years.....	8.4	8.6	9.0	8.5	11.7	7.4	8.5	8.2	8.8	5.4	6.4	6.4	6.1
55 to 59 years.....	8.1	8.4	7.5	7.4	8.1	6.9	6.7	9.6	7.7	4.9	4.9	3.6	3.3
60 to 64 years.....	10.2	10.4	7.7	8.0	7.3	5.8	7.6	14.1	8.1	7.5	7.6	2.4	6.1
65 to 69 years.....	9.7	10.0	7.0	7.6	5.2	5.5	6.2	14.0	7.6	6.1	6.2	2.4	3.0
70 to 74 years.....	9.5	9.8	7.2	8.3	3.8	5.5	5.9	13.1	7.1	6.6	6.7	1.2	5.0
75 to 79 years.....	6.9	7.1	5.6	6.6	2.2	4.5	4.2	9.0	6.4	5.4	5.5	1.6	2.8
80 to 84 years.....	4.3	4.2	3.7	4.3	1.2	2.7	3.8	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8	0.8	3.9
85 to 89 years.....	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.9	0.5	1.4	1.3	1.9	2.0	2.5	2.5	0.4	3.3
90 to 94 years.....	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.7	1.8	.....	1.6
95 to 99 years.....	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	(²)	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.9	1.0	.....	1.1

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

² Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The age groupings of the white paupers and of the negro paupers do not correspond. For the whites the highest percentage is found in the age group 60 to 64 years, but for the negroes in the age group 20 to 24 years. In each age group under 40 years there are relatively more of the negroes than of the whites. These facts, however, are evidence not that the negroes as a race become dependent from general causes at an earlier age than the whites, but, as will be shown later, that a larger proportion of the negroes than of the whites

are sent to almshouses as defective and sick rather than as ordinary paupers.

The comparative youthfulness of the inmates who were Mongolians would be puzzling were it not known that most of them are found in the Pacific coast states where almshouse care is often synonymous with hospital treatment. Besides, few of the Mongolians are of advanced age; and their numbers are too small to permit any general deductions.

Most immigrants who arrive in the United States are

between 15 and 40 years old; therefore white paupers of foreign birth are but slightly represented until the age groups 35 to 39 and 40 to 44 are reached, and even in these groups the concentration is less for the foreign born than for the native white. The concentration of the foreign born white paupers in the age groups increases as the age advances but becomes greater than that of native white paupers only after passing the age period 50 to 54 years, in which the concentration of the native white paupers reaches a maximum. The maximum proportion of foreign born white paupers in any quinquennial age period is in the age group 60 to 64 years, in which there are relatively nearly twice as many foreign born as native white paupers. This latter condition also holds in the age groups, 65 to 69 and 70 to 74 years.

The percentages for the native white of foreign parents, unlike those for the native white of native parents, show a marked diminution in the age periods above 55, which is doubtless an indication of the fact that in the general population a comparatively small proportion of the persons included in this nativity class have reached the older years of life.

The percentages for white paupers of mixed parentage, that is, with one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign, are chiefly interesting because of the extraordinary proportion of infants of such parentage—13.2 per cent. Beyond question this points to the fact that paupers of this parentage include a relatively large proportion of illegitimate children as compared with the paupers of either native or foreign parentage.

Age at admission.—How paupers classified by sex, color, nativity, and race are distributed according to age in the country at large or in each state or territory is of small moment in comparison with the question of the age at which paupers are admitted to almshouses. The constantly shifting nature of the population in these institutions undoubtedly would permit some fairly accurate inferences in regard to the time of life when pauperism occurs to be drawn from tables dealing only with present age. Yet there is everywhere a fairly large number of inmates who, having once sought shelter in almshouses, remain there for many years and figure in older age groups in succeeding censuses, thus, more or less, vitiating conclusions as to the time of life in which a condition of pauperism most frequently arises. These uncertainties are eliminated in Tables 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 (pages 120, 124, 128, 132, 136, and 140), which show ages at time of admission by quinquennial

periods for inmates present on the given date as well as for those admitted during 1904. In Tables xx and xxi the general data have been reduced to percentages and summarized for the United States.

Table xx shows, by sex, color, nativity, and race, the percentages of paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, that were admitted at the different quinquennial age periods. The numbers for Mongolians and Indians are insufficient for significant rates.

An inspection of the figures in Table xx shows that of the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, admitted between the ages of 5 and 65 the number steadily increases as the age period advances.

Admissions to almshouses are therefore more numerous between 60 and 64 years than in any other quinquennial age period. In the entire number of individuals under consideration, 51.5 per cent of the admissions occurred between the ages of 40 and 69. If children under 15 had not been included, this percentage would have been materially increased. Of the whole number of admissions 22.9 per cent took place at ages from 15 to 39 years, and 17.5 per cent at ages over 70 years. Or, to put it differently, 69 per cent of the paupers were brought to almshouses after they had attained the fortieth year of age, and more than one-half had rounded out a half century. Nothing could more clearly establish the fact that the pauperism cared for in almshouses is largely an incident of the later years of life.

Comparing the ages of admission of the white and colored inmates of almshouses, it is evident that a much larger proportion of colored than of white paupers are admitted below 25 and above 75 years of age, while during the intervening period the reverse is true.

A partial explanation of the relatively larger number of young colored than of young whites admitted to almshouses is found in the very large percentages of feeble-minded colored in almshouses and in the fact that, among the colored, almshouse support for those so afflicted is first sought when their inefficiency as breadwinners has been clearly established, that is, when they reach maturity. It is highly probable also that very many youthful colored persons are sent to the almshouse suffering from pulmonary complaints. As to the admission of persons at least 75 years of age the higher proportion observed for colored than for white paupers may not be due to any condition other than the exaggeration of age so common among the former class.

TABLE XX.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE AT ADMISSION, OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE.

SEX AND AGE AT ADMISSION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903.												
	Aggregate.	White.								Colored.			
		Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mon-golian.	Indian.
			Total.	Native parent-age.	Foreign parent-age.	Mixed parent-age. ¹	Parent-age unknown.						
Both sexes:													
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(²)	(²)
Under 5 years.....	2.4	2.2	3.8	3.8	2.4	8.8	3.1	0.1	1.8	4.0	4.0	(²)	.....
5 to 9 years.....	1.2	1.1	1.9	2.0	1.3	3.1	2.3	0.1	0.4	1.9	1.9	.....	(²)
10 to 14 years.....	1.5	1.5	2.5	2.6	1.5	2.1	3.3	0.1	1.2	2.6	2.5	.....	(²)
15 to 19 years.....	3.1	2.9	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.8	6.1	0.6	2.7	4.8	4.7	(²)	(²)
20 to 24 years.....	4.2	3.9	5.8	5.7	6.7	4.8	5.8	1.4	3.3	6.8	6.7	(²)	(²)
25 to 29 years.....	4.5	4.4	5.9	5.6	7.5	6.1	6.3	2.3	4.5	5.7	5.7	(²)	(²)
30 to 34 years.....	5.0	5.0	6.5	6.1	8.9	6.8	6.0	3.0	7.0	5.0	5.1	(²)	(²)
35 to 39 years.....	6.1	6.1	7.4	6.8	10.7	6.8	7.2	4.5	5.7	5.7	5.7	(²)	(²)
40 to 44 years.....	6.6	6.7	7.7	7.2	11.5	6.0	6.9	5.4	6.6	5.9	5.7	(²)	(²)
45 to 49 years.....	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.3	10.2	7.3	6.6	7.6	4.9	5.5	5.5	(²)	(²)
50 to 54 years.....	8.1	8.4	7.3	7.0	9.1	7.7	6.0	9.9	4.0	5.4	5.4	(²)	(²)
55 to 59 years.....	9.4	9.7	7.0	7.1	7.2	6.7	6.0	13.2	5.8	6.4	6.5	.....	(²)
60 to 64 years.....	10.3	10.6	7.2	7.4	6.3	7.0	6.4	15.1	3.9	6.8	6.9	.....	(²)
65 to 69 years.....	9.7	9.9	6.8	7.4	4.7	5.6	5.2	14.1	1.9	6.7	6.8	(²)	(²)
70 to 74 years.....	8.0	8.2	6.4	7.1	2.8	5.6	5.3	10.6	3.9	6.2	6.2	(²)	(²)
75 to 79 years.....	5.4	5.4	4.6	5.2	1.5	4.2	4.2	6.6	1.2	5.6	5.5	(²)	(²)
80 to 84 years.....	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.7	0.9	2.5	1.9	2.7	1.9	3.6	3.6	(²)	(²)
85 to 89 years.....	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.8	2.2	2.2	.....	(²)
90 to 94 years.....	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.1	1.1	.....	(²)
95 to 99 years.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	(³)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.7	.....	(²)
100 years and over.....	0.1	(³)	(³)	(³)	.....	0.1	(³)	(³)	.....	0.5	0.5	.....	(²)
Age unknown.....	3.0	2.7	3.1	3.0	1.6	2.3	9.1	1.5	37.2	6.9	6.9	.....	(²)
Males:													
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(²)	(²)
Under 5 years.....	1.9	1.8	3.4	3.6	1.7	7.4	2.6	0.1	1.8	3.6	3.6	(²)	.....
5 to 9 years.....	1.1	1.0	1.9	1.9	1.2	2.8	2.5	0.1	0.4	2.0	2.0	.....	(²)
10 to 14 years.....	1.3	1.2	2.1	2.3	1.4	1.6	3.1	0.1	2.3	2.8	2.7	.....	(²)
15 to 19 years.....	2.4	2.2	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.5	4.8	0.6	3.0	4.6	4.5	(²)	(²)
20 to 24 years.....	3.4	3.1	4.9	4.8	5.5	4.0	5.4	1.1	4.5	6.2	6.2	(²)	(²)
25 to 29 years.....	3.6	3.5	5.0	4.6	6.5	5.4	5.1	1.9	3.6	4.0	4.0	(²)	(²)
30 to 34 years.....	4.3	4.3	5.7	5.0	8.2	6.3	6.6	2.7	7.2	5.1	5.1	(²)	(²)
35 to 39 years.....	5.7	5.7	7.1	6.3	11.1	6.7	7.2	4.3	4.5	5.6	5.5	(²)	(²)
40 to 44 years.....	6.6	6.6	7.8	7.0	12.2	6.2	6.9	5.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	(²)	(²)
45 to 49 years.....	7.7	7.9	8.3	7.9	11.0	7.8	7.4	7.6	2.7	5.8	5.7	(²)	(²)
50 to 54 years.....	8.9	9.1	8.1	7.7	10.4	8.2	7.0	10.3	4.5	5.8	5.8	(²)	.....
55 to 59 years.....	10.1	10.4	7.6	7.7	8.0	7.2	6.2	13.5	5.0	6.7	6.8	.....	(²)
60 to 64 years.....	11.5	11.9	8.1	8.3	7.0	9.0	7.2	16.2	4.1	7.2	7.4	.....	(²)
65 to 69 years.....	10.6	10.9	7.7	8.4	5.2	6.8	6.0	14.5	0.9	6.6	6.7	(²)	(²)
70 to 74 years.....	8.9	9.1	7.2	8.3	2.9	6.5	6.4	11.1	3.6	6.8	6.8	(²)	(²)
75 to 79 years.....	5.6	5.6	5.0	5.9	1.5	4.4	4.4	6.3	0.9	5.8	5.7	(²)	(²)
80 to 84 years.....	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.9	0.7	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.3	3.9	3.9	(²)	.....
85 to 89 years.....	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.5	0.9	1.1	0.7	0.4	2.2	2.2	.....	(²)
90 to 94 years.....	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	1.3	1.3	.....	(²)
95 to 99 years.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	.....	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.7	.....	(²)
100 years and over.....	0.1	(³)	(³)	(³)	.....	0.2	(³)	(³)	.....	0.4	0.4	.....	(²)
Age unknown.....	2.3	2.0	2.5	2.3	1.4	2.0	7.2	1.2	40.5	5.8	5.9	.....	(²)
Females:													
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(²)	(²)
Under 5 years.....	3.1	2.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	11.2	4.0	0.1	1.7	4.5	4.0	.....	.....
5 to 9 years.....	1.4	1.4	2.1	2.0	1.5	3.5	2.1	0.1	0.3	1.8	1.8	.....	(²)
10 to 14 years.....	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	1.8	2.0	3.0	0.2	0.3	2.4	2.3	.....	(²)
15 to 19 years.....	4.4	4.3	6.1	5.8	7.2	7.1	8.0	1.1	2.1	5.1	5.0	.....	(²)
20 to 24 years.....	5.6	5.4	7.2	7.0	9.8	6.3	6.4	2.0	2.4	7.5	7.5	.....	(²)
25 to 29 years.....	6.0	5.9	7.3	6.9	9.9	7.3	8.1	3.4	5.2	6.8	6.8	(²)	(²)
30 to 34 years.....	6.3	6.4	7.8	7.5	10.6	7.7	7.3	3.7	6.9	5.0	5.0	.....	(²)
35 to 39 years.....	6.7	6.8	7.7	7.0	8.8	7.0	7.2	4.9	6.5	5.8	5.9	.....	.....
40 to 44 years.....	6.7	6.8	7.5	7.3	9.9	5.7	6.8	5.6	6.9	5.4	5.4	.....	(²)
45 to 49 years.....	6.8	7.0	6.0	6.5	8.4	6.4	5.4	7.8	6.5	5.2	5.3	.....	.....
50 to 54 years.....	6.9	7.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.0	4.6	9.0	5.2	4.8	4.8	.....	(²)
55 to 59 years.....	8.1	8.4	6.1	6.3	5.1	5.7	5.7	12.6	6.5	6.1	6.1	.....	(²)
60 to 64 years.....	7.9	8.1	5.9	6.1	4.6	5.2	5.0	12.5	3.8	6.3	6.3	.....	(²)
65 to 69 years.....	8.0	8.1	5.5	6.1	3.2	3.5	3.1	13.1	2.8	6.8	6.8	.....	(²)
70 to 74 years.....	6.5	6.6	5.1	5.6	2.6	4.1	3.6	9.4	4.1	5.4	5.5	.....	.....
75 to 79 years.....	5.0	5.0	3.9	4.2	1.3	3.8	3.9	7.2	1.4	5.2	5.2	.....	(²)
80 to 84 years.....	2.7	2.7	2.3	2.4	1.5	2.2	1.7	3.5	1.7	3.1	3.1	.....	(²)
85 to 89 years.....	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.0	1.2	1.0	2.3	2.2	.....	(²)
90 to 94 years.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	.....	0.8	0.7	.....	.....
95 to 99 years.....	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	.....	.....	0.2	.....	.....	0.9	0.8	.....	(²)
100 years and over.....	0.1	(³)	(³)	(³)	.....	.....	0.1	0.1	.....	0.5	0.5	.....	.....
Age unknown.....	4.2	3.7	4.1	3.0	1.9	2.9	12.1	2.0	34.7	8.3	8.4	.....	.....

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.³ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

When the percentages for different groups of white paupers are examined, some notable contrasts are observed. Among the foreign born white 63.5 per cent were admitted at the ages from 55 and over, as against 38.3 per cent of the native white of native parentage and 35.7 per cent of the total native white. This marked difference between the percentages of

foreign born white paupers and of native white paupers of native parentage in the age group 55 years and over might be taken to indicate that pauperism overtakes the former class later in life than it does the latter, but consideration of the figures in the following tabular statement and of other facts pertaining to the two classes shows that such is not the case.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.

AGE.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION.					
	Native white.		Native white of native parentage.		Foreign born white.	
	General population, 1900.	Paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903.	General population, 1900.	Paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903.	General population, 1900.	Paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903.
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 15 years.....	38.9	8.2	37.3	8.4	5.9	0.3
15 to 34 years.....	35.2	22.9	34.0	22.0	36.7	7.3
35 to 54 years.....	18.1	30.1	18.9	28.3	37.1	27.4
55 years and over....	7.6	35.7	9.5	38.3	20.9	63.5
Age unknown.....	0.2	3.1	0.3	3.0	0.3	1.5

The above figures indicate that the age distribution of the foreign born white population is very different from that of the native white population of native parentage. This arises from the fact that most of the white immigrants enter this country as young adults or adults in the prime of life rather than as children or old persons. Because of this, and of the further fact that the white immigrants of all ages constitute a more select class than the native whites of native parentage, since no physically unfit or wholly indigent person is allowed to enter this country, the foreign born white paupers are mostly concentrated in the older age periods. But this does not make it evident that pauperism affects the foreign born white later in life than it does the native white of native parentage, for a comparison of the figures for the general population in 1900 and the almshouse population on December 31, 1903, indicates the probability that the contrast between the concentration of each class in the older age groups is not more marked in the pauper than in the general population. As to the claim that the foreign born whites, who have generally a higher ratio of paupers than the native whites of native parentage, drift into public institutions at a time when they should still be able to make a living, a study of the ages at the time of admission adduces no evidence to substantiate it, although it is not at all unlikely that because of their poorer economic position the former class becomes incapacitated for work earlier in adult life than the latter.

Taking all the native white paupers into account, it is seen that but 35.7 per cent were admitted to almshouse support after the age of 55, and that the highest percentages occur in the quinquennial periods 35 to 54. The native whites of native parentage show uniformly higher percentages in the age periods 60 and upward than the native whites of foreign parentage. For the last-mentioned group the percentage culminates in the period 40 to 44 and diminish rapidly for the subsequent periods. Again the fact must be

taken into consideration that relatively few native white persons of foreign parentage who have attained the age of 50 years or more are found in the general population. The high percentages of this group in the age periods 25 to 49 would not be what they are if the native whites of foreign parentage were distributed in the same manner as those of native stock through all the different age periods. Whether larger accessions to the pauper ranks at later age are to be expected from the native whites of foreign parentage, can only be determined in the future, but they are indicated as probable in Table XXI.

In regard to sex, males are, in the aggregate, admitted to almshouses at a later age than females. Considering admissions after the fiftieth year, the percentages are 59.7 males and 46.8 females. Whether the figures are analyzed for the aggregate, or for the race and nativity classes, dependence is shown to come earlier into the lives of females than of males. The percentages of both males and females under 5 years of mixed parentage are exceptionally large for reasons already explained (page 24).

The number of paupers in almshouses on December 31, 1903, who were under 5 years of age at the time of admission, is given for main geographic divisions in Tables 20, 21, and 22 (pages 132, 136, and 140), from which the following percentages are derived:

DIVISION.	PER CENT OF PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE AT ADMISSION.		
	Aggregate.	White.	Colored.
Continental United States	2.4	2.2	4.0
North Atlantic	2.0	1.9	6.8
South Atlantic	5.4	5.8	4.4
North Central	1.5	1.5	2.8
South Central	5.4	6.4	2.9
Western	0.4	0.4	0.7

The above figures show that relatively many more persons are admitted to almshouses in infancy in the southern divisions than in the northern. They also show that this is not attributable to the large colored population in those divisions, for in each southern division the proportion is greater for the whites than for the colored. The fact rather illustrates either a less persistent effort to provide for destitute children without resorting to almshouses or an absence of facilities for so providing. The Western division is not comparable with the others in this respect because of the smaller number of children in the total population.

Table XXI shows the percentages for quinquennial age periods of paupers admitted to almshouses in 1904, classified by sex, color, nativity, and race.

ANALYSIS OF DATA.

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TABLE XXI.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF PAUPERS ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, (CLASSIFIED BY SEX, COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE.

SEX AND AGE.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904.												
	Aggregate.	White.								Colored.			
		Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mongolian.	Indian.
			Total.	Native parent-age.	Foreign parent-age.	Mixed parent-age. ¹	Parent-age unknown.						
Both sexes:													
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	4.1	4.1	7.1	6.6	7.2	18.5	3.9	0.1	4.8	4.3	4.4	.....	5.9
5 to 9 years.....	2.1	2.1	3.6	3.7	3.0	5.9	2.6	0.2	1.9	1.7	1.7	.....	4.2
10 to 14 years.....	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.8	1.9	2.6	1.9	0.3	0.7	1.8	1.8	0.5	4.2
15 to 19 years.....	3.2	2.9	4.1	4.3	3.1	4.0	4.7	1.3	1.4	6.4	6.4	4.3	6.7
20 to 24 years.....	5.8	5.3	6.5	6.6	5.1	7.1	8.2	3.7	2.8	11.6	11.5	18.2	7.6
25 to 29 years.....	5.5	5.1	5.9	5.7	6.1	6.7	7.2	4.2	2.7	9.5	9.3	15.8	9.2
30 to 34 years.....	5.7	5.5	6.3	5.8	7.8	5.9	7.1	4.7	2.6	7.4	7.1	16.3	7.6
35 to 39 years.....	6.4	6.3	6.9	6.2	8.9	6.1	8.3	5.7	2.9	7.0	6.8	9.1	10.9
40 to 44 years.....	7.0	7.1	7.5	6.5	10.9	7.8	7.8	6.7	4.1	5.7	5.5	12.0	9.2
45 to 49 years.....	7.1	7.4	7.8	6.8	11.6	5.9	7.9	6.9	4.9	4.6	4.6	6.2	4.2
50 to 54 years.....	8.3	8.6	8.3	7.8	10.8	5.9	8.3	9.0	5.3	5.6	5.6	4.8	7.6
55 to 59 years.....	7.6	8.0	6.8	6.8	7.2	5.7	6.4	9.7	4.3	4.2	4.2	3.8	1.7
60 to 64 years.....	9.4	9.6	6.9	7.1	6.3	4.8	7.3	13.5	4.4	6.5	6.6	2.9	4.2
65 to 69 years.....	8.1	8.5	5.6	6.2	4.1	3.3	5.3	12.4	3.9	4.7	4.8	2.4	4.2
70 to 74 years.....	7.3	7.6	5.7	6.7	3.2	3.8	4.7	10.2	4.5	4.8	4.9	0.9	3.4
75 to 79 years.....	4.8	4.9	3.9	4.7	1.6	2.9	3.7	6.2	3.3	3.6	3.8	0.9	0.8
80 to 84 years.....	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.9	0.6	1.3	2.1	3.0	2.8	3.1	3.2	0.5	2.5
85 to 89 years.....	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.3	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.3	1.4	.....	1.7
90 to 94 years.....	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	(²)	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.0	1.1	.....	.....
95 to 99 years.....	0.1	0.1	(²)	0.1	(²)	.....	(²)	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	.....	.....
100 years and over.....	0.1	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	0.5	0.5	.....	0.8
Age unknown.....	1.8	1.5	1.0	1.2	0.3	0.7	1.3	0.8	41.6	4.3	4.4	1.4	3.4
Males:													
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(³)
Under 5 years.....	3.0	2.9	5.2	5.0	4.9	13.8	2.9	0.1	2.8	3.5	3.6	.....	(³)
5 to 9 years.....	1.6	1.7	2.9	3.1	2.2	5.2	2.0	0.2	0.9	1.1	1.1	.....	(³)
10 to 14 years.....	1.3	1.2	2.1	2.4	1.5	2.0	1.3	0.2	0.8	1.6	1.6	0.5	(³)
15 to 19 years.....	2.3	2.0	3.0	3.2	2.1	2.3	3.8	0.9	0.5	5.1	5.1	4.4	(³)
20 to 24 years.....	4.9	4.3	5.4	5.3	4.1	5.9	7.4	3.2	2.9	11.0	10.7	18.2	(³)
25 to 29 years.....	5.2	4.8	5.6	5.2	5.8	6.8	7.3	4.0	2.5	9.5	9.3	15.3	(³)
30 to 34 years.....	5.6	5.4	6.1	5.5	7.7	6.5	6.6	4.5	3.1	7.4	7.1	16.3	(³)
35 to 39 years.....	6.7	6.6	7.2	6.4	9.3	7.1	8.3	5.8	3.7	7.7	7.5	9.4	(³)
40 to 44 years.....	7.5	7.7	8.3	7.0	12.0	9.3	8.3	7.0	5.2	6.2	5.9	12.3	(³)
45 to 49 years.....	7.8	8.1	8.8	7.6	12.9	7.1	8.5	7.4	5.4	4.9	4.9	6.4	(³)
50 to 54 years.....	9.3	9.5	9.8	9.2	12.2	7.1	9.6	9.4	5.6	6.1	6.1	4.9	(³)
55 to 59 years.....	8.5	8.9	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.3	7.4	10.3	4.0	4.8	5.0	3.4	(³)
60 to 64 years.....	10.1	10.4	7.6	7.9	7.0	5.6	8.0	14.0	5.1	7.2	7.4	2.9	(³)
65 to 69 years.....	8.7	9.1	6.0	6.8	4.4	3.7	5.7	12.9	4.6	5.1	5.2	2.5	(³)
70 to 74 years.....	7.5	7.8	6.0	7.3	3.3	4.0	4.4	10.0	5.1	4.8	5.0	1.0	(³)
75 to 79 years.....	4.7	4.7	3.9	4.8	1.6	3.2	3.5	5.9	3.1	3.9	4.1	0.5	(³)
80 to 84 years.....	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.9	0.6	1.4	2.6	2.4	2.3	3.1	3.2	0.5	(³)
85 to 89 years.....	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.5	.....	(³)
90 to 94 years.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	(²)	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.9	0.9	.....	.....
95 to 99 years.....	0.1	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	.....	.....
100 years and over.....	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	.....	(²)	.....	0.4	0.4	.....	.....
Age unknown.....	1.6	1.4	0.0	1.0	0.3	0.5	1.2	0.7	41.5	3.9	4.1	1.5	(³)
Females:													
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(³)	(³)
Under 5 years.....	7.3	7.5	11.6	10.1	15.2	29.5	6.8	0.3	0.4	5.8	5.7	.....	(³)
5 to 9 years.....	3.4	3.5	5.3	5.0	5.9	7.7	4.6	0.4	4.1	2.9	2.8	.....	(³)
10 to 14 years.....	2.5	2.5	3.8	3.9	3.2	4.1	3.5	0.5	0.3	2.3	2.3	.....	(³)
15 to 19 years.....	5.7	5.2	6.8	6.7	6.6	7.8	7.7	2.6	3.5	8.9	8.9	.....	(³)
20 to 24 years.....	8.4	7.8	9.2	9.2	8.4	9.9	10.7	5.7	2.5	13.0	13.1	(³)	(³)
25 to 29 years.....	6.4	6.0	6.8	6.7	7.0	6.4	7.0	4.9	3.2	9.3	9.3	(³)	(³)
30 to 34 years.....	6.2	6.1	6.7	6.4	8.2	4.6	8.8	5.1	1.6	7.2	7.1	(³)	(³)
35 to 39 years.....	5.7	5.8	6.2	5.9	7.2	3.5	8.3	5.2	0.9	5.5	5.5	.....	(³)
40 to 44 years.....	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.3	6.9	4.3	6.3	5.5	1.6	4.7	4.7	.....	(³)
45 to 49 years.....	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.1	7.2	3.3	5.9	5.3	3.8	3.0	4.0	.....	.....
50 to 54 years.....	5.7	5.8	4.9	4.9	5.8	2.8	4.4	7.5	4.4	4.7	4.7	.....	(³)
55 to 59 years.....	5.1	5.4	4.1	4.2	5.0	1.9	3.4	7.5	5.0	2.8	2.8	(³)	.....
60 to 64 years.....	7.2	7.5	5.1	5.4	4.1	3.1	5.2	12.0	2.8	5.0	5.0	.....	(³)
65 to 69 years.....	6.4	6.7	4.4	4.9	3.2	2.4	3.9	10.8	2.5	4.1	4.1	.....	(³)
70 to 74 years.....	6.0	7.2	5.0	5.5	2.9	3.4	5.3	11.0	3.2	4.8	4.9	.....	.....
75 to 79 years.....	5.0	5.2	3.0	4.7	1.6	2.1	2.5	7.5	3.8	3.2	3.2	(³)	.....
80 to 84 years.....	3.3	3.3	2.3	2.7	0.7	1.2	2.6	4.9	4.1	3.2	3.2	.....	.....
85 to 89 years.....	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.6	0.0	1.1	1.1	.....	.....
90 to 94 years.....	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	(²)	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.3	1.3	1.3	.....	.....
95 to 99 years.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	.....	0.1	.....	.....	0.5	0.5	.....	.....
100 years and over.....	0.1	(²)	(²)	(²)	.....	0.1	.....	0.1	.....	0.6	0.6	.....	(³)
Age unknown.....	2.2	1.8	1.3	1.5	0.3	1.2	1.5	1.0	42.1	5.2	5.2	.....	(³)

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.² Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.³ Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The 81,412 inmates, of whom the per cent distribution is given in Table XXI, include, of course, all new admissions during the year, and also a number of readmissions of old cases which could not be differentiated. When compared with the distribution by age at admission as shown for the pauper

population in Table XX the percentages arrived at on the basis of admissions for the twelve months of 1904 are found to differ from the others in suggestive respects. The percentages of children under 5 are much higher in the aggregate and in each race and nativity class except the foreign born white and Mongolian.

This does not signify an increasing use of almshouses as institutions for the permanent care of children; for the almshouses receive many children for whom provision is subsequently made in private families or children's homes, and therefore the number of those admitted at an early age constitutes a larger per cent of the total number admitted during a year than of the total number present on any given day. Except in the case of children under 16 years of age, the admissions must be taken to mean, on the whole, more or less permanent additions to the almshouse population.

With respect to age at admission, the largest proportion of paupers admitted in 1904 is found in the age group 60 to 64 years; the fact that this proportion is somewhat smaller than the corresponding proportion for paupers enumerated on December 31, 1903, is due chiefly to the relatively larger number of children under 5 years of age in the former class. For the foreign born white paupers admitted in 1904 the proportion in the age period 20 to 39 years is greater than the corresponding proportion for those enumerated on December 31, 1903; this is also true for the negroes, the difference, however, being more marked. More negroes were admitted between the ages of 20 and 24 than in any other quinquennial period.

Leaving out of consideration children under 15 years of age, who are in many instances only temporary inmates of almshouses, a comparison of the figures in Tables xx and xxi shows that the distribution by age at admission of the native white paupers of native parentage admitted to almshouses during 1904 differs but slightly from that of those enumerated on December 31, 1903. This is what might be expected of so stable an element of the general population. On the other hand, for the native whites of foreign parentage the difference between the distribution of the two classes by age at admission is marked. In the age groups between 15 and 39 years the large decrease in the percentages of paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904 as compared with those enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903, is probably a reflection of the increasing concentration of this element of the general population in the older age groups. This view of the situation is emphasized when it is observed that of the native white paupers of foreign parentage enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903, the greatest concentration is found in the age groups between 35 and 49 years, while of those admitted to almshouses during 1904 the maximum proportions are found in the age group between 40 and 54 years.

With respect to the foreign born whites a comparison of the figures in Tables xx and xxi shows that the relative numbers admitted in the age periods between 20 and 44 years are much greater for paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904 than for those enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903. There are no data available from which the

reason for this increase can be ascertained, but it is possibly a corollary of the change in the age constitution of the general foreign born white population arising from the great influx of immigrants since 1900.

The percentage of children of mixed parentage under 5 years of age is again shown to be excessive when compared with the other groups, and probably for the reasons already given.

In a comparison by sex the age distribution shows differences similar to those noted in connection with Table xx. Ages at admission as shown in Table 17 when examined for the geographic divisions, show that the percentages of infants are largest in the South Atlantic and South Central divisions, and that there is everywhere a greater proportion of infants among female paupers than among male.

Another view of the distribution of ages at admission is afforded in Table xxii, which shows, for main geographic divisions, the average ages for all paupers, classified by sex, color, nativity, and race, as given in Table 24 (page 150).

In the aggregate, the general average age at admission for both sexes is 49.4. Considered by geographic divisions the average age is lower in the southern divisions and higher in the northern and western than in continental United States. The variation from the average for the entire country is much greater for the former than for the latter, being 3.6 years in the South Atlantic and 5.1 years in the South Central, and not greater than 2 years in any other division. The average age at admission of foreign born whites, who as a class are admitted at a more advanced age than any other element, is about 12 years higher than that of native whites, and about 11 years higher than that of the native whites of native parentage; but it will be remembered that practically no foreign born whites were admitted to almshouses in the quinquennial life periods under 20, so that the comparison gives the foreign born whites an advantage. The low general averages for native white paupers of foreign parentage and those of mixed parentage are attributable to the small proportions of the first group in the higher age periods, and, in the instance of the second group, to the presence of an unusual proportion of children.

Among native white paupers the average age at admission is highest in the Western division, 47.9 years, and lowest in the South Central states, where it is 40.7 years. These two divisions stand also in the same relation with respect to the average age of the native white paupers of native parentage. The native white paupers of foreign parentage, however, show the lowest average age at admission in the North Atlantic group, where it is much lower than in either the South Atlantic or the South Central divisions, in the latter of which the average age for this class is highest.

TABLE XXII.—AVERAGE AGE AT ADMISSION OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1904.

DIVISION AND SEX.	AVERAGE AGE AT ADMISSION OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.												
	Aggre- gate.	White.								Colored.			
		Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity un- known.	Total.	Negro.	Mon- golian.	Indian.
			Total.	Native parent- age.	Foreign parent- age.	Mixed parent- age. ¹	Parent- age un- known.						
Continental United States: Both sexes.....	40.4	40.8	44.4	45.6	41.7	38.3	43.7	50.9	40.0	44.0	45.1	37.3	41.1
Males.....	51.0	51.5	46.5	47.8	43.7	41.5	45.5	57.2	48.3	46.0	46.3	37.3	41.4
Females.....	45.8	46.1	40.4	41.8	35.9	31.7	30.2	56.3	44.2	43.0	43.1	38.9	40.4
North Atlantic division: Both sexes.....	40.7	50.0	43.0	46.9	39.6	34.8	40.7	55.9	38.5	40.9	40.9	40.3	41.0
Males.....	50.8	51.0	45.7	48.8	41.6	37.7	42.8	56.0	38.9	42.4	42.5	40.3	42.1
Females.....	47.6	47.9	40.1	43.4	34.0	28.0	36.6	55.7	38.2	38.5	38.5	.....	39.4
South Atlantic division: Both sexes.....	45.8	45.9	43.8	43.6	40.5	41.3	42.5	57.9	46.7	45.7	45.7	37.5	35.8
Males.....	47.7	47.9	45.3	44.9	40.5	40.4	43.3	57.5	40.5	47.5	47.5	37.5	32.5
Females.....	43.3	43.5	42.3	42.4	40.4	32.6	41.4	59.2	41.7	42.8	42.9	.....	36.8
North Central division: Both sexes.....	50.5	50.8	45.0	45.4	43.8	42.1	45.0	59.0	50.4	45.3	45.4	51.5	40.7
Males.....	52.5	52.8	47.2	47.7	45.5	45.0	46.5	59.3	52.1	46.5	46.6	50.8	39.8
Females.....	45.8	46.0	41.2	41.6	39.3	36.4	42.2	57.9	47.6	42.8	42.8	52.5	42.1
South Central division: Both sexes.....	44.3	43.3	40.7	40.4	51.1	36.7	43.4	59.9	43.5	46.6	46.6	.....	33.1
Males.....	46.4	46.2	42.8	42.6	52.2	38.3	42.8	59.8	44.4	46.8	46.8	.....	25.5
Females.....	41.6	39.8	38.6	38.3	49.0	34.7	44.2	60.3	42.1	46.3	46.3	.....	42.6
Western division: Both sexes.....	51.4	51.7	47.9	49.5	47.2	45.5	44.8	56.0	47.7	41.1	44.0	36.7	42.7
Males.....	52.2	52.6	49.5	50.8	48.6	48.0	46.8	56.1	48.2	46.6	44.1	36.8	43.0
Females.....	44.8	44.8	39.0	39.4	35.3	31.7	34.5	55.0	44.2	44.6	47.5	33.5	41.3

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

In general, the males were 5.2 years older at admission than females, the average for the last mentioned being 45.8. In the geographic divisions, the difference between the average ages at admission of the two sexes is found to vary from 3.2 years in the North Atlantic division to 7.4 years in the Western, the average age at admission being everywhere higher for male paupers than for female. Similar differences between the average ages of the sexes are observable in each race and nativity class, with the exception of the foreign born white and Mongolian, among whom the average ages of males and females are more nearly identical.

Marital condition.—Table 25 (page 152) shows the marital condition, so far as ascertained, of the paupers in each main geographic division, classified by sex, color, nativity, and race. The table includes those paupers who were in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and also those who were admitted during 1904, a total of 163,176. The marital condition of 4,620 is unknown, leaving 158,556 (108,254 males and 50,302 females) who can be classed as single, married, widowed, or divorced.

Table xxiii shows the per cent distribution, by marital condition, of paupers in almshouses at sometime during 1904 and of those enumerated in 1890, classified by sex, for main geographic divisions.

At both censuses children of all ages have been included, which accounts for the large percentages of paupers who are single. The proportion single is, however, smaller in 1904 than in 1890, both in the United States and in every geographic division except the North Atlantic and the Western. The percentage of paupers who were married shows a slight increase in all the state groups with exception of the North Central, while the percentage of widowed paupers appears to have grown somewhat for the United States, though not in all divisions. The returns of divorced disclose very nearly the same percentages in 1904 as in 1890. In respect to sex, the Western division continues to show the largest percentage of single men and of married women, with correspondingly small percentages of married men, widowers, and single women.

PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.

TABLE XXIII.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1904 AND 1890.

DIVISION AND SEX.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.									
	1904.					1890..				
	Single.	Married.	Wid- owed.	Divorced.	Un- known.	Single.	Married.	Wid- owed.	Divorced.	Un- known.
Continental United States:										
Both sexes.....	52.1	16.0	27.8	1.3	2.8	53.8	15.8	25.2	1.0	4.2
Males.....	56.0	14.8	24.8	1.2	3.2	58.4	15.0	21.4	1.0	4.2
Females.....	43.8	18.5	34.4	1.2	2.1	47.9	16.9	30.0	1.0	4.2
North Atlantic division:										
Both sexes.....	48.7	17.7	31.9	0.6	1.1	48.6	16.6	28.7	0.5	5.6
Males.....	52.9	17.0	28.4	0.6	1.1	54.0	16.1	24.1	0.6	5.2
Females.....	40.2	19.1	39.1	0.6	1.0	42.1	17.2	34.0	0.5	6.2
South Atlantic division:										
Both sexes.....	55.3	17.5	24.2	0.7	2.3	57.7	13.9	24.4	0.4	3.6
Males.....	55.5	18.9	22.3	0.8	2.5	57.3	16.2	21.7	0.4	4.4
Females.....	55.1	15.6	26.0	0.7	2.0	58.1	11.7	20.8	0.5	2.9
North Central division:										
Both sexes.....	52.4	15.2	27.7	2.3	2.4	57.7	17.3	20.6	1.5	2.9
Males.....	55.6	13.8	25.6	2.3	2.7	62.4	15.3	17.7	1.4	3.2
Females.....	44.8	18.6	32.7	2.1	1.8	51.1	20.1	24.6	1.8	2.4
South Central division:										
Both sexes.....	51.7	15.5	24.0	1.8	7.0	56.0	10.5	28.7	1.4	3.4
Males.....	54.9	15.1	20.0	1.7	8.3	59.2	11.6	24.4	1.8	3.0
Females.....	47.8	16.0	29.0	1.9	5.3	53.1	9.5	32.5	1.1	3.8
Western division:										
Both sexes.....	62.3	10.4	17.7	1.1	8.5	60.1	10.0	24.9	1.4	3.6
Males.....	66.7	8.0	15.7	1.0	8.6	64.6	8.0	22.1	1.4	3.9
Females.....	29.8	27.6	33.1	1.6	7.9	26.3	25.0	45.7	1.1	1.9

Table XXIV shows the per cent distribution, by marital condition, of the paupers in almshouses at some time during 1904 and of those enumerated at the census of 1890; classified by sex, color, nativity, and race.

TABLE XXIV.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE: 1904 AND 1890.

SEX AND MARITAL CONDITION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.											
	White.								Colored.			
	Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mongolian.	Indian.
		Total.	Native parent-age.	Foreign parent-age.	Mixed parent-age. ¹	Parent-age unknown.						
1904												
Both sexes:												
All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single.....	52.1	58.9	57.2	66.6	64.6	55.0	43.7	30.8	52.2	52.1	54.1	58.3
Married.....	16.0	15.2	16.1	13.0	13.0	13.0	17.2	7.0	15.9	16.1	7.5	17.2
Widowed.....	28.1	22.3	23.8	18.7	20.1	16.8	36.1	16.0	25.1	25.6	2.0	20.8
Divorced.....	1.3	1.7	1.9	1.2	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.8	-----	-----
Unknown.....	2.5	1.9	1.0	0.5	0.9	14.2	2.2	45.7	6.0	5.4	36.4	3.7
Males:												
All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Single.....	56.1	62.1	60.0	69.0	67.0	58.7	49.9	29.4	54.1	53.8	54.9	66.7
Married.....	14.7	13.7	14.9	11.4	11.8	10.9	15.9	6.1	16.3	16.7	6.1	12.9
Widowed.....	25.0	20.2	22.0	17.0	18.9	13.4	30.8	13.9	22.2	22.9	1.6	15.1
Divorced.....	1.3	1.7	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.8	0.9	-----	-----
Unknown.....	2.0	2.3	1.2	0.6	1.1	15.9	2.5	50.2	6.6	5.7	37.4	5.3
Females:												
All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(?)	(?)
Single.....	43.1	53.0	52.6	56.6	59.6	46.5	25.7	33.0	49.2	49.3	(?)	(?)
Married.....	18.9	18.0	18.2	17.9	15.4	18.0	21.0	8.5	15.2	15.0	(?)	(?)
Widowed.....	35.0	26.1	26.0	23.7	22.7	24.3	51.4	19.4	30.0	30.0	(?)	(?)
Divorced.....	1.3	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	-----	-----
Unknown.....	1.7	1.2	0.5	0.2	0.5	10.3	1.3	38.6	4.9	5.0	-----	-----

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

TABLE XXIV.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY MARITAL CONDITION, OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE: 1904 AND 1890—Continued.

SEX AND MARITAL CONDITION.		PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS IN ALMSHOUSES.											
		White.							Colored.				
		Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mongolian.	Indian.
			Total.	Native parentage.	Foreign parentage.	Mixed parentage. ¹	Parentage unknown.						
1890													
Both sexes:													
All classes.....		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(²)	(²)
Single.....		53.6	62.8	60.7	73.1	59.1	64.0	42.0	46.0	55.4	55.3	(²)	(²)
Married.....		16.2	13.5	14.4	11.7	13.6	12.3	19.9	13.8	12.7	12.6	.....	(²)
Widowed.....		25.1	19.7	22.7	13.2	24.9	15.3	32.9	16.7	26.8	27.0	.....	(²)
Divorced.....		1.0	1.3	1.4	0.8	1.7	1.2	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.4	.....	(²)
Unknown.....		4.1	2.7	0.8	1.2	0.7	7.2	4.5	22.5	4.7	4.7	(²)	(²)
Males:													
All classes.....		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(²)	(²)
Single.....		58.4	66.3	63.1	78.7	63.2	68.0	50.0	49.5	58.5	58.4	(²)	(²)
Married.....		15.1	12.5	14.3	8.9	11.7	10.5	18.4	9.7	13.6	13.6	.....	(²)
Widowed.....		21.3	17.1	20.3	10.4	22.7	12.7	26.7	12.2	23.0	23.1	.....	(²)
Divorced.....		1.0	1.2	1.5	0.9	1.5	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	.....	(²)
Unknown.....		4.2	2.9	0.8	1.1	0.9	8.0	4.1	27.9	4.3	4.3	(²)	(²)
Females:													
All classes.....		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(²)	(²)
Single.....		47.5	59.0	58.1	64.4	53.8	59.7	29.4	42.7	52.1	52.0	(²)	(²)
Married.....		17.5	14.6	14.4	16.1	16.1	14.4	22.1	17.6	11.7	11.6	.....	(²)
Widowed.....		29.9	22.6	25.3	17.7	27.7	18.0	42.7	20.7	30.9	31.1	.....	(²)
Divorced.....		1.0	1.4	1.3	0.7	1.9	1.6	0.5	1.3	0.2	0.2	.....	(²)
Unknown.....		4.1	2.4	0.9	1.1	0.5	6.3	5.3	17.7	5.1	5.1	.....	(²)

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The percentages obtained conform, on the whole, to the corresponding statistics for 1890. Again, the smallest percentage of single persons is found among white paupers of foreign birth, which is natural, since the group includes very few children and shows the highest average age at admission. For the same reasons the largest percentage of widowed persons occurs among the foreign born. For the native white paupers of foreign parentage the proportion single is greater than for any other class. This was also true in 1890, the proportion being even higher at that census than at this. The explanation in each instance is that the relative number of persons in the older age groups is smaller for this class than for any other.

The percentage single among negro paupers is lower than that among any other race or nativity class except the foreign born whites and the whites of unknown nativity, a condition which also existed in 1890.

Female paupers who have had children.—Since nearly one-half of the paupers in almshouses are or have been married, it is evident that a large number of children must have been more or less involved in the pauperism of their fathers and mothers. How many of these children are now or at sometime have been public wards is not known; many of them are doubtless found among those enumerated in this report. Others have long since reached mature age. Table 27 (page 155), which includes figures for each of the main

geographic divisions, shows for female almshouse paupers, classified by color, nativity, and race, the number who have had children, the distribution of the number with living children by the number of such children, and the number of living children.

There were 27,836 female paupers reported as married, widowed, or divorced and 21,410 reported as having had children. The number of their children returned as living is 37,193, of whom 16,969 had native white mothers of native parentage, 2,061 native white mothers of foreign parentage, 13,155 had foreign born white mothers, and 3,184 had negro mothers. Comparatively few of these children still in youthful years can be found in almshouses, for the entire number of children under 16 accounted for in this report is only 9,453, of whom but 2,891 were present on the given date in 1903.

Literacy and illiteracy.—Persons at least 10 years of age who can not write are classed as "illiterates." These illiterates are subdivided according to the degree of illiteracy into two classes, one including those who can read and the other those who can not. Table 28 (page 156) gives the number and percentages of illiterates among paupers in almshouses at sometime during 1904, classified by sex, color, nativity, and race, for main geographic divisions. Since children under 10 years of age are omitted, the total number involved is 156,025, of which 107,967 are males and 48,058 are females.

Table xxv is a summary which gives the per cent illiterate among paupers in almshouses some time during 1904, for the main geographic divisions.

TABLE XXV.—*Per cent illiterate among paupers at least 10 years of age in almshouses, for main geographic divisions: 1904.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.					
	Conti- nental United States.	North Atlan- tic divi- sion.	South Atlan- tic divi- sion.	North Central divi- sion.	South Central divi- sion.	West- ern divi- sion.
All classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Literate	64.6	67.9	39.4	66.9	41.0	81.4
Illiterate	32.5	30.1	57.1	31.0	52.5	12.8
Can read but not write	5.0	5.3	4.6	5.3	5.6	3.3
Can neither read nor write	27.5	24.8	52.5	25.7	46.9	9.5
Unknown	2.9	2.0	3.5	2.1	6.5	5.8

In 1890 it was found that among paupers of all ages 56.8 per cent could both read and write, 6.1 per cent could read only, and 37.1 per cent could neither read nor write. As compared with thirteen years ago, the extent of illiteracy among paupers has apparently diminished in a marked degree, for at the present time only 32.5 per cent are illiterate; but this decrease is not so great as the difference between the percentages indi-

cates, since for 1890 the figures include the total pauper population, while for 1904 they include only the pauper population at least 10 years of age. To what extent this improvement is due to a smaller proportion of insane, feeble-minded, and other defectives in the almshouse population is not known, as returns of these classes of paupers for 1890 are lacking. Since, as will be shown later, 10.3 per cent of the paupers enumerated on the given date were insane and 20.2 per cent feeble-minded, the percentage of persons who are illiterate because of lack of proper schooling is of course less than is indicated by the percentage of illiterates in Table xxv.

The percentage of illiteracy is greatest in the South Atlantic division, where the number of colored paupers is larger than elsewhere. It is least in the Western division. The most significant change has taken place in the North Central states, which in 1890 had 43 per cent illiterate among paupers, as against 31 per cent at present, and now show conditions in respect to the degree of education among paupers nearly like those of the North Atlantic states.

Table xxvi is a summary which gives the per cent illiterate among paupers in almshouses at some time during 1904, classified by color, nativity, and race.

TABLE XXVI.—*PER CENT ILLITERATE AMONG PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE: 1904.*

CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.											
	White.								Colored.			
	Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity un- known.	Total.	Negro.	Mongol- ian.	Indian.
		Total.	Native parent- age.	Foreign parent- age.	Mixed parent- age. ¹	Parent- age un- known.						
All classes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Literate	68.2	69.3	67.2	80.4	75.0	62.9	67.7	26.7	27.8	26.9	66.8	38.3
Illiterate	29.1	28.3	31.3	18.9	23.4	23.6	30.2	27.8	67.1	68.0	24.5	59.5
Can read but not write	5.1	4.0	5.0	3.6	5.3	3.4	5.8	4.7	3.8	3.9	0.8	5.0
Can neither read nor write	24.0	23.7	26.3	15.3	18.1	20.2	24.4	23.1	63.3	64.1	23.7	53.9
Unknown	2.7	2.4	1.5	0.7	1.0	13.5	2.1	45.5	5.1	5.1	3.7	2.2

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

The percentage of illiteracy among negro paupers, 68, is nearly two and one-half times as great as among the whites. For white paupers the proportion of illiterates is greater among native whites of native parentage than among the foreign born whites, and greater among the foreign born whites than among native whites of foreign parentage. Further, the native white paupers of mixed parentage show a larger percentage of illiterates than those of foreign parentage. The highest percentage of illiteracy among the foreign born white paupers is in the North Atlantic division.

Occupation prior to admission.—Tables 29, 30, and 31 (pages 160, 166, and 172) deal with those paupers at

least 10 years of age who were in almshouses at some time during 1904 and whose occupation prior to admission is known. In Table 29 these paupers, classified by color, nativity, and race, are distributed in each main geographic division according to their occupation prior to admission. In Table 30 similar data are presented for males and in Table 31 for females.

The total number of paupers thus classified is 123,647, of whom 95,354 were males and 28,293 females. Of the 32,378 paupers at least 10 years of age whose occupation prior to admission is not known, 12,613 were males and 19,765 were females.

Table xxvii gives, for main geographic divisions,

the per cent distribution, by previous occupation, of those paupers at least 10 years of age, classified by sex, who were in almshouses at some time during 1904 and whose occupation prior to admission is known.

TABLE XXVII.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY PREVIOUS OCCUPATION, OF THOSE PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY SEX, WHOSE OCCUPATION PRIOR TO ADMISSION IS KNOWN, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1904.

OCCUPATION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES, WHOSE OCCUPATION PRIOR TO ADMISSION IS KNOWN: 1904.																	
	Continental United States.			North Atlantic division.			South Atlantic division.			North Central division.			South Central division.			Western division.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
All occupations.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional.....	1.2	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.4	0.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.9	2.3	0.9	1.5	1.5	1.4
Clerical and official.....	1.4	1.7	0.3	1.4	1.8	0.2	1.3	2.0	0.1	1.2	1.4	0.4	1.5	2.2	0.2	1.8	1.9	0.5
Mercantile and trading.....	1.5	1.9	.....	1.6	2.2	.....	0.9	1.4	.....	1.5	1.9	.....	1.4	2.2	.....	1.3	1.4	.....
Public entertainment.....	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3	(1)	0.1	0.2	(1)	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.8
Personal service, police, and military.....	1.5	1.1	2.8	1.3	1.1	2.0	2.4	1.0	4.8	1.4	1.0	2.7	1.8	1.1	3.0	1.6	1.3	6.0
Laboring and servant.....	47.8	38.8	78.3	63.6	43.6	82.3	44.0	31.6	67.2	46.7	38.1	81.8	30.3	26.0	65.3	36.0	33.0	71.6
Manufacturing and mechanical industry.....	19.0	23.6	3.7	22.8	28.7	5.7	13.0	19.8	2.6	17.7	21.8	1.1	10.4	15.0	1.6	16.1	17.1	0.6
Agriculture, transportation, and other outdoor.....	23.7	30.7	(1)	15.5	20.9	.....	27.5	42.2	.....	26.8	33.3	(1)	33.4	50.3	0.1	36.2	41.9	0.1
All other occupations.....	3.6	0.5	14.0	2.8	0.6	9.2	8.9	0.4	24.8	2.8	0.5	12.5	9.9	0.4	28.6	1.8	0.6	19.0

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The largest percentage of paupers, 47.8, is drawn from the laboring and servant class; the second largest, 23.7, from those engaged in agriculture, transportation, and other outdoor pursuits; and the third largest, 19, from persons occupied in manufacturing and mechanical industries. In other words, 90.5 per cent of all the paupers whose occupations prior to admission were ascertained are found in the three groups of pursuits just mentioned.

The laboring and servant class is most numerously represented in each of the geographic divisions except the Western, where paupers who worked at agriculture and kindred occupations show the largest percentage. Of all the groups of states the North Atlantic has the largest percentage of persons who had been occupied in manufacturing and mechanical industries, and the smallest who had been engaged in agriculture, transportation, and other outdoor pursuits.

Among males the largest proportion in the North Atlantic and North Central divisions had been drawn from the laboring and servant class, while in each of the other divisions the maximum proportion had been engaged in agriculture, transportation, and other outdoor pursuits.

The largest percentage of female paupers for continental United States and for each main geographic division had been drawn from the laboring and servant class. The occupations of females, however, are in many instances distinct from those of males; therefore, the females have been tabulated under a special classification in Table 31, from which the percentages given in the following tabular statement are derived:

OCCUPATION.	Percentages.
All occupations.....	100.0
Musicians and teachers of music.....	0.1
Teachers in schools.....	0.7
Stenographers and typewriters.....	(1)
Bookkeepers, clerks, and copyists.....	0.2
Hotel and boarding house keepers.....	0.1
Laundresses.....	1.9
Nurses and midwives.....	0.0
Servants.....	78.4
Artificial flower and paper box makers.....	(1)
Cigarmakers and tobacco workers.....	0.2
Mill and factory operatives (textiles).....	3.4
Milliners.....	0.5
Dressmakers and seamstresses.....	4.2
Telegraph and telephone operators.....	(1)
All other occupations.....	9.4

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

The figures show that the occupation prior to admission of 78.4 per cent of the 28,293 females had been that of servant, which in this instance includes "housework." The next highest percentage, 4.2, had been dressmakers and seamstresses, while only 3.4 per cent had been occupied as mill and factory operatives.

In Table XXVIII the per cent distribution, by previous occupation, is shown for those paupers at least 10 years of age, classified by color, nativity, and race, who were inmates of almshouses at some time during 1904 and whose occupation prior to admission is known.

More paupers of all elements of population are drawn from the ranks of laborers and servants than from any other of the occupation classes here distinguished, as is shown by the 46.9 per cent of white, 57.3 per cent of colored, 41 per cent of native white, 53 per cent of foreign born white, etc., classified as laborers and servants. So far as the native white of native parentage or of unknown parentage, the white of unknown nativity, and the colored of all classes are

concerned, the next largest percentages of paupers are made up of those who were engaged in agriculture, transportation, and other outdoor labor. The native white of foreign or mixed parentage and the foreign born white are more largely represented by those who had been engaged in manufacturing and mechanical

industries. In the three classes of occupations under consideration are found 87.9 per cent of the native whites, 86.9 per cent of the native whites of native parentage, 90.5 per cent of the native whites of foreign parentage, 93.6 of the foreign born whites, and 89.1 per cent of the negroes.

TABLE XXVIII.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY PREVIOUS OCCUPATION, OF THOSE PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE, WHOSE OCCUPATION PRIOR TO ADMISSION IS KNOWN: 1904.

OCCUPATION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES, WHOSE OCCUPATION PRIOR TO ADMISSION IS KNOWN: 1904.											
	White.								Colored.			
	Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mongolian.	Indian.
		Total.	Native parentage.	Foreign parentage.	Mixed parentage. ¹	Parentage unknown.						
All occupations.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Professional.....	1.2	1.7	2.0	0.9	1.4	1.5	0.8	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.8
Clerical and official.....	1.5	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.5	1.7	0.9	0.4	(²)	(²)	.....	.....
Mercantile and trading.....	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.8	2.1	.....
Public entertainment.....	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.2	1.5	(²)	(²)	0.4	.....
Personal service, police, and military.....	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.5	3.5	3.4	10.7	1.6
Laboring and servant.....	46.9	41.0	39.8	43.7	39.6	45.9	53.0	44.4	57.3	57.2	63.3	47.6
Manufacturing and mechanical industry.....	20.6	20.2	18.6	26.6	25.9	15.4	20.9	13.6	4.0	4.1	1.7	4.0
Agriculture, transportation, and other outdoor.....	23.3	26.7	28.5	20.2	22.8	29.2	19.7	31.5	27.8	27.8	21.0	38.9
All other occupations.....	3.4	4.7	5.4	2.9	4.2	3.1	2.1	4.9	6.0	6.1	0.4	7.1

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

² Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Condition for work.—Table 32 (page 174) classifies the 79,683 paupers at least 10 years of age in almshouses on December 31, 1903, as able-bodied or incapacitated, in accordance with their ability to work. Table 34 (page 178) gives the same facts in regard to the 76,342 paupers of at least 10 years of age admitted during 1904.

Table XXIX, which is based on Tables 32 and 34, shows the per cent distribution, in respect to ability to work, of paupers at least 10 years of age in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and of those admitted during 1904, for main geographic divisions.

Since the almshouse statistics were compiled from returns made by many enumerators, it was of course impossible to secure a differentiation of the able-bodied from those incapacitated for labor according to an absolutely uniform standard. Judgments as to the fitness of a person to engage in manual labor will naturally differ and sometimes go astray. But the purpose of this inquiry as to the condition of paupers for work was merely to secure some general indication of the extent to which inmates of almshouses belong to a class which under ideal conditions of administration ought to be made self-supporting; and for this purpose a precise scientific classification was not essential.

TABLE XXIX.—Per cent distribution, by capacity for manual labor, of paupers at least 10 years of age enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, for main geographic divisions.

CLASS.	PAUPERS AT LEAST 10 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.					
	Continental United States.	North Atlantic division.	South Atlantic division.	North Central division.	South Central division.	Western division.
Per cent distribution of those enumerated, December 31, 1903.						
All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Able-bodied.....	11.7	15.8	7.2	9.8	6.1	10.0
Incapacitated.....	85.0	81.0	88.6	87.7	89.9	84.3
Unknown.....	3.3	3.2	4.2	2.5	4.0	5.7
Per cent distribution of those admitted during 1904.						
All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Able-bodied.....	23.6	29.4	10.6	16.5	12.0	31.2
Incapacitated.....	67.4	62.6	76.8	77.1	72.3	57.9
Unknown.....	9.0	8.0	12.6	6.4	15.7	10.9

As tramps and other wayfarers were excluded throughout from the enumeration, the percentages in Table XXIX refer to bona fide inmates. Considering first the percentages derived from the population

of almshouses on December 31, 1903, there is, on the whole, some degree of correspondence in the returns for the different geographic divisions; the range of the percentages of paupers not able to work being from 81 per cent in the North Atlantic division to 89.9 per cent in the South Central. Great urban aggregations of population are most likely to furnish considerable numbers of able-bodied paupers, and therefore the largest percentage of these is naturally found in the North Atlantic group of states. The table establishes beyond peradventure that a very considerable number of the inmates is not really entitled to almshouse care. The percentages obtained from admissions to almshouses in 1904 substantiate this view, but for several reasons are not quite comparable with the other. The figures for admissions include all children at least 10 years of age received during the year, many of whom are soon distributed among families and special institutions. Again there are very many, particularly in the North Atlantic and Western divisions, who seek medical treatment in almshouses for acute troubles, and except for the temporary illness are to be regarded as able-bodied. In the Western division, for instance, which returns 31.2 per cent of the paupers as able-bodied, hospital care is afforded inmates on a generous scale in several states.

Tables 33 and 35 (pages 177 and 180), show that among the paupers enumerated on December 31, 1903, there are relatively fewer able-bodied females than able-bodied males, but among those admitted during 1904 the reverse is true, although the difference is not so marked.

The figures in these tables show no significant variations in the capacity for manual labor of the different elements of the population, except in the case of the negro paupers. Of the negroes enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903, for the United States, 90.8 per cent were incapacitated; for the South Atlantic division, 92 per cent; and for the South Central, 94 per cent.

Mental and physical defects.—A far-reaching explanation of the reason why so many paupers are incapable of all self-support is found in Tables 36 and 37 (pages 182 and 184), which show, for main geographic divisions, the number of inmates, classified by sex, color, nativity, and race, who suffer from some mental or physical impairment, the first giving the figures for paupers enumerated on December 31, 1903, and the second for those admitted during 1904. Table 38 (page 186), in which both pauper groups have been consolidated, shows the same facts for states and territories.

So far as the almshouse population of the given date is concerned it may perhaps be somewhat wide of the mark to say that the infirmities noted indicate the precise causes of pauperism in all or even in a majority of cases. Probably nearly every pauper designated as feeble-minded in the returns was in the first instance

admitted because of mental deficiency; but many who are enumerated as insane have doubtless become so after admission. The paralytic, old and infirm, bed-ridden, and rheumatic may also to a large extent have become so subsequent to admission. The deformed and crippled, on the other hand, were probably with few exceptions compelled to give up the struggle for existence because of their inherent or acquired physical infirmity. The matter assumes a different aspect when cases admitted to almshouses during a given period are considered; and it may properly be inferred that the stated physical or mental defects in such cases have operated directly as causes of dependence. Yet what lies back of these infirmities is not known. Therefore the tables under consideration are not to be regarded as dealing with "assigned causes of pauperism."

As in the instance of the inquiry concerning condition for work, the classification of paupers as insane, feeble-minded, etc., lays no claim to scientific precision; therefore some of the persons designated as insane are probably only feeble-minded and vice versa. But for purposes of a general analysis, the groupings are sufficiently accurate. When an inmate was returned as suffering from more than one infirmity, he was classified by that which might be considered the major defect and thus he appears only in a single group.

Table xxx shows percentages of defectives among paupers enumerated on December 31, 1903, and among those admitted in 1904, for the main geographic divisions.

The table deals with a total of 64,602 defectives, or 79 per cent of the total population in almshouses on December 31, 1903.

About 10 per cent of the pauper inmates in the United States on the given date were classified as insane, this group being especially prominent in the North Central and South Central divisions. In the first-mentioned group, Illinois and Iowa have the largest percentages of insane.

The feeble-minded formed 20.2 per cent of the whole number of paupers in the United States, with the highest percentages, 29.3 and 27.9 per cent, in the South Atlantic and South Central divisions, respectively. These relatively high percentages are attributable to the fact that in the South there is as yet no separate public institution for the feeble-minded except in Kentucky. The feeble-minded among the white seldom fall to public care, whereas for negroes so afflicted home care is generally out of the question on account of poverty, and the almshouse becomes their only resort. The North Central division also shows a large number of feeble-minded among paupers.

There is little variation in the percentages of the epileptic, blind, deaf-mute, and paralytic in the different state groups. The percentage of paupers who are crippled, maimed, or deformed is exceptionally high in the Western division, which shows 20.5 per cent, as compared with 13.6 for continental United States.

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TABLE XXX.—PER CENT DEFECTIVE AMONG PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, AND AMONG THOSE ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS.

DIVISION.	PER CENT.										
	Defect- ive.	Insane.	Feeble- minded.	Epileptic.	Blind.	Deaf- mute.	Par- alytic.	Crippled, maimed, or de- formed.	Old and infirm.	Bed- ridden.	Rheu- matic.
Among paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903.											
Continental United States	79.0	10.3	20.2	1.7	3.6	0.8	4.7	13.6	17.4	0.9	5.8
North Atlantic.....	74.7	9.2	15.4	1.6	3.0	0.7	5.0	13.2	18.8	0.8	7.0
South Atlantic.....	80.0	7.0	29.3	2.0	4.6	1.3	4.1	11.4	15.7	0.7	3.9
North Central.....	84.1	13.9	23.5	1.7	3.4	0.8	4.1	13.7	17.3	0.7	5.0
South Central.....	81.2	13.0	27.9	2.1	5.7	0.8	3.9	11.5	11.0	1.5	3.8
Western.....	75.7	1.9	11.4	1.2	3.9	0.4	6.8	20.5	19.9	2.2	7.5
Among paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904.											
Continental United States.....	53.8	4.1	7.8	0.9	1.4	0.5	3.4	11.8	11.3	4.5	8.1
North Atlantic.....	48.4	3.8	5.1	0.8	1.2	0.2	3.4	11.5	11.6	2.5	8.3
South Atlantic.....	54.8	4.1	13.5	1.3	1.9	0.4	3.8	7.8	9.8	4.7	7.5
North Central.....	60.9	4.9	11.2	0.9	1.6	1.1	3.4	15.0	13.4	7.2	8.2
South Central.....	53.9	8.2	15.0	1.4	2.2	0.6	3.4	8.7	9.2	4.8	5.4
Western.....	44.7	2.0	3.6	0.7	1.0	0.2	3.1	11.1	8.8	5.4	8.8

Next to the feeble-minded, the paupers designated as old and infirm constitute the largest percentage of defectives. With the exception of the South Central division, in which the percentage of this class of defectives is comparatively small, the proportions do not vary much from that for continental United States. Almost 1 per cent of the paupers were found to be bedridden.

The various mental and physical infirmities noted among the paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904 have probably for the greater part been the direct or indirect causes of dependence; but what may, in the first instance, have induced the specific ailments is another question. The table deals with a total of 43,785 admissions, and thus 53.8 per cent of all persons admitted had one or the other of the infirmities mentioned.

The percentage of insane admitted constitutes 4.1 per cent of the total admissions, and it is nearly the same in each of the state groups except the South Central and the Western.

Among paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904 the proportion of feeble-minded is comparatively large and, as in the case of paupers enumerated on December 31, 1903, the highest percentages are found in the South Atlantic, North Central, and South Central divisions.

The 1,163 blind persons who were removed to almshouses in 1904, constitute 1.4 per cent of the total admissions.

Deaf-mutes formed only 0.5 per cent of the admissions. The paralytics numbered 2,756, or 3.4 per cent of the total, and relatively are very evenly distributed among the geographic divisions.

The largest total percentage, 11.8, is made up of

persons described as crippled, maimed, or deformed. The percentage of this class is practically the same in the North Atlantic and Western divisions; but it is somewhat higher in the North Central and lower in the South Atlantic and South Central groups.

The second largest number of defectives, or 11.3 per cent of the total number of admissions, is in the class of old and infirm. Contrary to expectation, the North Central group shows a greater percentage of these than the North Atlantic states; but it will be remembered that the average age at admission is slightly higher in the first-mentioned division. One may, however, take for granted that very many if not most of the paupers classified as bedridden were of advanced years. To a considerable extent this may also be true of the persons described as rheumatic. Therefore it is a permissible inference that by far the largest number of defective paupers admitted in 1904 applied for almshouse care because of old age and the ills incidental to it.

Table xxxi shows the per cent defective among paupers enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and among those admitted to almshouses during 1904, classified by color, nativity, and race.

In the pauper population of December 31, 1903, the percentage of insane is higher among the negroes than among the whites, and the same is true for the negroes as compared with the native whites. The foreign born whites contribute relatively a smaller number of insane than the native whites, whether of native or foreign parentage. The numbers of insane white paupers of unknown parentage or unknown nativity, 450 and 214, respectively, are so small that the high percentages shown under these groups have little significance.

TABLE XXXI.—PER CENT DEFECTIVE AMONG PAUPERS ENUMERATED IN ALMSHOUSES, DECEMBER 31, 1903, AND AMONG THOSE ADMITTED TO ALMSHOUSES DURING 1904, CLASSIFIED BY COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE.

COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE.	PER CENT.										
	Defect-ive.	Insane.	Feeble-minded.	Epi-leptic.	Blind.	Deaf-mute.	Para-lytic.	Crippled, maimed, or de-formed.	Old and infirm.	Bed-ridden.	Rheu-matic.
Among paupers enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903.											
White.....	78.6	10.2	10.8	1.7	3.3	0.7	4.6	13.7	17.8	0.9	5.9
Native.....	79.6	11.6	27.6	2.2	3.3	0.9	4.6	11.9	12.2	0.8	4.5
Native parentage.....	80.0	11.4	29.2	2.2	3.4	0.9	4.3	11.6	13.2	0.8	3.0
Foreign parentage.....	73.9	11.4	10.2	2.4	3.2	0.9	6.1	14.7	7.2	1.0	7.8
Mixed parentage ¹	73.8	7.8	22.8	1.8	3.0	0.7	5.5	14.2	11.3	0.7	5.1
Parentage unknown.....	80.8	17.4	31.0	1.5	2.2	1.4	3.7	8.1	10.6	1.2	3.7
Foreign born.....	77.1	7.8	9.5	1.0	3.2	0.5	4.6	16.1	25.5	1.0	7.0
Nativity unknown.....	82.1	41.7	24.2	0.6	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.7	5.0	0.8	1.0
Colored.....	84.0	11.4	25.1	2.0	7.2	1.1	5.3	13.1	13.1	1.4	4.3
Negro.....	84.1	11.6	25.1	2.0	7.2	1.1	5.3	13.0	13.1	1.4	4.3
Mongolian.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Indian.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Among paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904.											
White.....	53.5	4.0	7.5	0.9	1.3	0.5	3.3	12.0	11.6	4.2	8.2
Native.....	51.5	4.0	9.9	1.1	1.3	0.6	3.3	11.2	8.2	4.0	7.3
Native parentage.....	56.5	5.2	11.8	1.2	1.5	0.7	3.6	11.3	9.5	4.6	7.1
Foreign parentage.....	43.9	3.3	5.6	1.1	1.1	0.5	2.7	13.3	4.7	2.8	8.8
Mixed parentage ¹	41.7	2.7	6.2	0.8	0.9	0.5	3.7	11.1	5.5	3.3	7.0
Parentage unknown.....	38.0	4.5	7.2	0.6	0.7	0.4	2.2	7.2	7.2	2.2	5.8
Foreign born.....	56.9	3.1	4.5	0.5	1.4	0.3	3.3	13.4	16.2	4.5	9.7
Nativity unknown.....	27.9	5.7	5.5	0.2	0.7	0.7	1.1	2.8	8.0	1.6	0.7
Colored.....	56.9	5.7	10.6	1.2	2.2	0.5	4.2	9.6	9.0	7.4	6.5
Negro.....	58.2	5.8	11.0	1.2	2.3	0.5	4.2	9.7	9.4	7.5	6.0
Mongolian.....	22.5	1.9	1.4	.....	0.5	.....	3.8	4.3	0.5	6.7	3.4
Indian.....	36.1	1.7	0.7	.....	2.5	0.8	0.8	11.8	4.2	4.2	3.4

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

Feeble-minded paupers are also relatively more numerous among the negro inmates than among the total white, but the percentage of the first-mentioned class is smaller than that of the native white. Feeble-mindedness being usually a congenital defect, or one appearing in early infancy, is not especially prominent among foreign born paupers, who for the greater part arrive in this country after the age of 15. It is less apparent why the percentage of feeble-minded paupers should be about ten points higher among the native whites of native parentage than among the native whites of foreign parentage. An explanation may lie in the fact that in the number of feeble-minded are included persons of all ages, and that since the native whites of foreign parentage are a comparatively new element in the general population, the proportion of feeble-minded among them has not yet begun to be accurately reflected in the almshouse returns. As in the case of the insane, the numbers of the feeble-minded of unknown parentage or unknown nativity are so small that the high percentages under these groups have little meaning.

All the elements of the almshouse population have about the same percentages of blind paupers except the negroes, of whom 7.2 per cent are blind, or relatively more than twice as many as among the white inmates.

The foreign born whites show the largest percentage of paupers who are crippled, maimed, or deformed, a matter which presumably is intimately connected with

the nature of the employments of many of this group. The foreign born whites also show much the largest percentage of old and infirm paupers; this is absolutely in keeping with the late age period at which the majority are admitted to public care. On the other hand, native whites of foreign parentage of advanced age are not found in sufficient numbers in the general population to give a large percentage of old and infirm almshouse inmates.

Of the paupers admitted to almshouses during 1904, 53.5 per cent of the whites and 58.2 per cent of the negroes are defective.

The foreign born whites have a larger proportion defective among those admitted during 1904 than any other white class. In so far as allusion may be made to the probable causes of pauperism, old age and its attendant infirmities appear to be the most potent in bringing the foreign born whites to almshouses, and physical injuries or deformities rank as the second cause. Only 9.8 per cent of the foreign born whites are insane, feeble-minded, epileptic, blind, or deaf-mutes, as compared with 17.5 per cent of the native whites.

Among the native whites there are relatively fewer of foreign than of native parentage in every class of defectives except the crippled, maimed, or deformed, and the rheumatic. The native whites of native parentage have higher percentages of both insane and feeble-minded than any other white class.

The percentages of insane and feeble-minded among the negroes are very similar to those among the native

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whites of native parentage. The feeble-minded form the largest group of negro defectives, which is a noteworthy fact, as, taken in connection with the lower average age of admission in the South than in the North, and the greater concentration in the southern divisions of the negro paupers than of the white, it affords a possible explanation of the comparative youthfulness of the colored paupers on admission to almshouses, as previously indicated in the tables dealing with age.

If the same institutional care outside almshouses were extended to the negro feeble-minded that is within the reach of the white race, it is not likely that

percentages of pauper admissions would reflect a relatively larger representation of colored feeble-minded than of white. But at the present time the negroes of small means are under necessity of committing their feeble-minded to county care.

Deaths in almshouses.—Of the 17,154 paupers who died in almshouses in 1904, 14,230 were white and 2,924 were colored. Details in regard to states and territories are given in Table 39 (page 194).

Table xxxii shows the per cent distribution, by quinquennial age periods, of those paupers who died in almshouses during 1904, classified by color and sex.

TABLE XXXII.—PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, BY AGE, OF PAUPERS DYING IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY RACE AND SEX: 1904.

AGE.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS DYING IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.								
	Aggregate.			White.			Colored.		
	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.
All ages.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	1.9	1.5	2.8	2.1	1.6	3.1	1.3	1.1	1.8
5 to 9 years.....	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.6
10 to 14 years.....	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	1.5	1.3	1.9	1.1	0.9	1.5	3.5	3.1	3.7
20 to 24 years.....	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.2	2.3	2.0	7.7	7.2	8.6
25 to 29 years.....	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.4	3.4	3.3	6.9	6.9	6.9
30 to 34 years.....	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.5	5.7	5.7	5.8
35 to 39 years.....	4.6	4.8	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.1	5.7	6.0	5.2
40 to 44 years.....	5.3	5.5	4.6	5.2	5.5	4.4	5.8	5.9	5.6
45 to 49 years.....	5.3	5.9	4.0	5.5	6.2	4.1	4.3	4.7	3.4
50 to 54 years.....	6.9	7.5	5.3	7.0	7.8	5.3	6.0	6.1	5.6
55 to 59 years.....	6.1	6.4	5.4	6.4	6.7	5.7	4.5	4.7	4.2
60 to 64 years.....	8.6	8.7	8.3	8.9	8.9	8.7	7.1	7.1	6.6
65 to 69 years.....	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.9	9.8	10.0	6.6	7.0	6.0
70 to 74 years.....	11.4	11.2	11.9	12.1	11.8	12.7	8.1	7.9	8.4
75 to 79 years.....	10.0	10.0	9.9	10.6	10.5	10.9	6.7	7.4	5.5
80 to 84 years.....	8.5	8.2	9.0	8.9	8.6	9.5	6.4	6.1	6.9
85 to 89 years.....	4.1	3.8	5.0	4.3	3.9	5.2	3.5	3.3	3.9
90 to 94 years.....	1.7	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.5	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.1
95 years and over.....	1.0	0.8	1.6	0.6	0.4	1.2	2.9	2.6	3.4
Age unknown.....	2.5	2.3	3.0	2.1	1.9	2.4	4.6	4.3	5.2

¹ Less than one-tenth of 1 per cent.

Among the white paupers the percentage of deaths was naturally greater in the infant group (under 5 years) than in the age periods 5 to 19. Beginning with the quinquennial period 20 to 24 years the percentage of deaths among whites gradually increases, except that it is slightly larger between the period 50 to 54 years than in the next succeeding, until the period 70 to 74 years is reached, in which there are more deaths than in any other. With the ages of 80 and over the percentages decline quickly. As compared with males the white female paupers show uniformly lower percentages of deaths in the age periods between 20 and 64 years and higher percentages in each of the preceding and subsequent periods. The longevity of female white paupers over 20 years of age is thus more marked.

Among the colored paupers the percentages of deaths at ages between 15 and 39 are much larger than those among the white. In the periods 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 years the percentages for the colored are especially high, even exceeding those in the periods 60 to 64 and 65 to 69 years. The numerous deaths in

youth of negro paupers has been attributed to the large number who are admitted to almshouses because afflicted with tuberculosis. The largest percentage of admissions, it will be recalled, occurs between the ages of 20 and 24. The largest number of deaths among the colored paupers is found in the age period 70 to 74 years. Relatively more colored than white paupers appear to reach extreme old age, and more colored females than males.

Children under 16 years of age.—In the pauper population of December 31, 1903, there were 2,891 children under 16 years of age, or 3.5 per cent of the whole number of inmates. Of the persons admitted to almshouses in 1904, 6,562, or 8.1 per cent, were children under 16 years of age. The report thus deals with a total 9,453 children under 16, or 5.8 per cent of the total number of paupers.

Table 40 (page 202) shows the distribution, by sex, color, nativity, and race, of children under 16 years of age, in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and of those admitted during 1904, for main geographic divisions. The per cent distribution, by color, nativity,

and race, of children under 16 years of age enumerated in almshouses on December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, are shown for the main geographic divisions in Table XXXIII.

TABLE XXXIII.—Per cent distribution, by color, nativity, and race, of paupers under 16 years of age enumerated in almshouses, December 31, 1903, and of those admitted to almshouses during 1904, for main geographic divisions.

COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE.	PAUPERS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.					
	Central United States.	North Atlantic division.	South Atlantic division.	North Central division.	South Central division.	Western division.
Per cent distribution of those enumerated, December 31, 1903.						
Aggregate.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	85.2	92.2	70.0	90.4	83.6	94.3
Native.....	83.2	88.3	70.0	88.0	83.2	88.0
Native parentage.....	62.9	50.2	66.8	67.3	76.1	55.7
Foreign parentage.....	7.9	17.6	0.3	6.5	—	20.0
Mixed parentage ¹	7.3	14.5	0.8	6.6	3.1	4.3
Parentage unknown.....	5.1	6.0	2.1	7.6	4.0	8.0
Foreign born.....	1.5	3.3	—	1.2	—	4.3
Nativity unknown.....	0.5	0.6	—	4.2	0.4	1.4
Colored.....	14.8	7.8	30.0	9.6	16.4	5.7
Negro.....	14.6	7.7	30.0	9.6	16.4	—
Mongolian.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Indian.....	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	5.7
Per cent distribution of those admitted during 1904.						
Aggregate.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	90.7	94.0	70.5	93.1	89.6	97.6
Native.....	85.9	87.0	69.4	90.2	87.1	91.6
Native parentage.....	56.6	43.1	63.5	71.4	80.8	46.4
Foreign parentage.....	14.4	24.1	0.4	9.5	—	9.8
Mixed parentage ¹	9.5	13.3	4.5	5.5	4.4	14.3
Parentage unknown.....	5.4	6.5	1.0	3.8	1.9	21.1
Foreign born.....	3.5	5.0	0.2	1.8	0.3	5.7
Nativity unknown.....	1.3	1.4	0.0	1.1	2.2	0.3
Colored.....	9.3	6.0	29.5	6.9	10.4	2.4
Negro.....	9.0	5.7	29.1	6.7	10.2	1.5
Mongolian.....	0.1	—	—	—	—	0.3
Indian.....	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.6

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.

The distribution of children in almshouses on December 31, 1903, reflects in large measure the constitution of the general population; for example, the largest proportion of negroes among these paupers is found in the South Atlantic states, in which the relative number of negroes in the general population is greatest, and the largest proportion of native whites of foreign and mixed parentage is found in the North Atlantic division, in which the percentage of foreign born whites in the general population is highest. As there are only 43 foreign born white children, the percentages for this class are not significant. The actual numbers, however, show that by far the greatest number of foreign born white children (33) is in the North Atlantic division, which also contains the largest aggregate number of pauper children.

Of the children admitted in 1904, the North Atlantic and Western states show the largest percentages of

native white children of foreign parentage, of those of mixed parentage, and of the foreign born white children. The total number of the last-mentioned group for the United States is 228. Negro child paupers number 592, and of the total of all children admitted during 1904, this class constitutes 5.7 per cent in the North Atlantic division, 29.1 per cent in the South Atlantic, 6.7 per cent in the North Central, 10.2 per cent in the South Central, and only 1.5 per cent in the Western.

The number of legitimate and illegitimate male and female children under 16 years of age, classified by race and nativity, is given for main geographic divisions in Table 41 (page 203), which combines the figures for those enumerated on December 31, 1903, and for those admitted during 1904. The whole number of children involved is 9,453, of whom 5,800 were reported as legitimate, 2,428 as illegitimate, and 1,225 as unknown.

Table xxxiv shows the per cent illegitimate in the almshouse population under 16 years of age, classified by color, nativity, and race, for the main geographic divisions.

About one-fourth, or 25.7 per cent, of the children in almshouses are reported as of illegitimate birth, with nearly 13 per cent unknown. The percentages for the North Atlantic and North Central divisions approximate those for the United States. In the South Atlantic division there are more child paupers of illegitimate than of legitimate birth, and an inspection of the figures for each race and nativity class shows that this excess is due to the number of children born out of wedlock among the negroes, although the number is also large among the whites. For the same reason the South Central group reports a large percentage of illegitimate children, though it is considerably smaller than that in the South Atlantic states. In the Western division 73.4 per cent of the children were found to be of legitimate birth, with 20.9 per cent unknown.

A majority of the negro children in almshouses for whom the facts are known are illegitimately born; and in the South Atlantic division the illegitimate are nearly twice as numerous as those born within wedlock.

Among the white, 64.2 per cent are reported as legitimate, 23.4 per cent as illegitimate, with 12.4 per cent unknown. The illegitimate white children are relatively much more numerous in the South Atlantic and South Central than in the other divisions.

For the United States as a whole the illegitimately born form a considerably larger percentage of the native white children of native parentage than of the native white children of foreign parentage. As should probably be expected, the percentage of illegitimate children is particularly large among those of mixed parentage. The foreign born white children in almshouses are numerically few and nearly all legitimate.

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TABLE XXXIV.—PER CENT ILLEGITIMATE AMONG PAUPERS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES, CLASSIFIED BY COLOR, NATIVITY, AND RACE, FOR MAIN GEOGRAPHIC DIVISIONS: 1904.

DIVISION AND CLASS.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.												
	Aggre- gate.	White.								Colored.			
		Total.	Native.					Foreign born.	Nativity unknown.	Total.	Negro.	Mono- gahan.	Indian.
			Total.	Native parent- age.	Foreign parent- age.	Mixed parent- age. ¹	Parent- age un- known.						
Continental United States: All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(2)	(2)
Legitimate.....	61.4	64.2	63.9	64.7	77.1	49.8	47.8	77.5	46.0	38.7	38.2	.....	(2)
Illegitimate.....	25.7	23.4	24.3	24.8	14.0	41.8	11.5	1.5	16.0	44.0	44.8	.....	(2)
Unknown.....	12.9	12.4	11.8	10.5	8.3	8.4	40.7	21.0	38.0	17.3	17.0	.....	(2)
North Atlantic division: All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(2)	100.0	100.0	.....	(2)
Legitimate.....	64.9	65.0	65.5	67.1	70.7	50.9	45.2	70.3	(2)	40.8	48.8	.....	(2)
Illegitimate.....	22.6	21.5	22.7	22.0	15.8	42.1	11.5	1.0	(2)	39.6	41.0	.....	(2)
Unknown.....	12.5	12.6	11.8	10.9	7.5	7.0	43.3	18.8	(2)	10.6	10.2	.....	(2)
South Atlantic division: All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	100.0	100.0	.....	(2)
Legitimate.....	42.8	49.9	49.9	51.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	26.1	26.3	.....	(2)
Illegitimate.....	43.4	30.9	40.1	39.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	51.5	51.4	.....	(2)
Unknown.....	13.8	10.2	10.0	8.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	22.4	22.3	.....	(2)
North Central division: All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(2)	(2)	100.0	100.0	.....	(2)
Legitimate.....	68.0	69.3	69.2	71.4	78.7	52.6	40.4	(2)	(2)	51.4	50.3	.....	(2)
Illegitimate.....	20.2	18.8	19.1	18.8	11.2	37.6	14.7	(2)	(2)	37.6	38.5	.....	(2)
Unknown.....	11.8	11.9	11.7	9.8	10.1	9.8	44.9	(2)	(2)	11.0	11.2	.....	(2)
South Central division: All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	100.0	100.0	.....	(2)
Legitimate.....	55.0	57.3	57.7	59.8	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	40.0	40.2	.....	(2)
Illegitimate.....	32.0	30.5	30.7	30.0	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	41.8	41.5	.....	(2)
Unknown.....	13.0	12.2	11.6	10.2	.....	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	18.2	18.3	.....	(2)
Western division: All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Legitimate.....	73.4	74.4	75.4	73.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)
Illegitimate.....	5.7	5.8	6.2	5.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)
Unknown.....	20.9	19.8	18.4	21.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	.....	(2)

¹ Having one parent native and the other foreign, or one parent unknown and the other either native or foreign.
² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

It appears from Table 42 (page 205) that of the total number of children, 1,837, or 19.4 per cent, were born in institutions, generally the almshouses, and that 7,318, or 77.4 per cent, were born elsewhere. In regard to 298, or 3.2 per cent, no information was obtained. The percentages of children born in institutions are nearly the same for the geographic divisions as for the United States, except for the South Atlantic and Western divisions, in which the percentages are 28.3 and 10.8, respectively.

Table 43 (page 207) shows for main geographic divisions the number of almshouse paupers under 16 years of age, classified by sex, color, nativity, and race, of whom both parents are living, the father only living, the mother only living, neither parent living, or of whom the facts are not known. The per cent distribution, by these classes, of the aggregate number of these pauper children is given in Table xxxv, for main geographic divisions.

Of the total number of children under consideration, 4,896, or 51.8 per cent, have both parents living; 796, or 8.4 per cent, only the father living; 2,330, or 24.6 per cent, only the mother living; 479, or 5.1 per cent,

are said to be orphans; and 952, or 10.1 per cent, are of the unknown class. It commonly occurs that infants accompany their mothers to the almshouse, and this, together with the fact that many unmarried women resort to this class of institution at the time of childbirth, probably accounts for the peculiarity that so many more of the children are reported to have the mother living than the father.

TABLE XXXV.—Per cent distribution, by parental relation, of paupers under 16 years of age in almshouses, for main geographic divisions: 1904.

PARENTAL RELATION.	PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF PAUPERS UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE IN ALMSHOUSES: 1904.					
	Conti- nental United States.	North Atlantic division.	South Atlantic division.	North Central division.	South Central division.	Western division.
All classes.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Both parents living.....	51.8	57.5	39.7	55.2	41.2	48.8
Father living.....	8.4	7.9	6.2	11.0	7.1	7.6
Mother living.....	24.6	19.8	38.2	19.7	35.7	20.4
Neither parent living.....	5.1	3.9	6.2	5.8	7.0	1.5
Unknown.....	10.1	10.9	9.7	7.7	8.4	21.7

APPENDIX.

OUTLINE OF THE LAWS GOVERNING POOR RELIEF IN THE UNITED STATES.

Introductory statement.—Only so much of the vast body of legislation known as pauper laws has been reproduced as will serve to indicate for each state the kind and extent of outdoor relief furnished; under what auspices it is dispensed; the classes of persons entitled to aid; the methods of almshouse administration and the chief regulations governing it; the treatment of destitute children; the extent of state supervision over almshouses; and whatever else may help to a truer appreciation of the pauper statistics of each state.

In order to bring the matter within a reasonable compass, it was necessary to exclude from the outline all items other than the chief points in the many special provisions occurring in the laws of some states—for instance, those relating to settlements. For the same reason no reference has been made to statutes, either by title or year of enactment. Further, no attempt has been made to systematize the outline according to a set plan. Special legislation has not been considered, and therefore the regulations in regard to poor relief which are contained in the charters of many cities do not appear. The compilation is intended as a guide to the interpretation of the statistics contained in this report and not as a scientific treatise. Where provisions that are common to other states are not referred to under the laws of any particular state, it must be taken for granted that they are not a part of the poor laws of that state.

As nearly as possible the phraseology of the existing laws has been followed.

Alabama.—The court of county commissioners has the duty to make such rules and regulations for the support of the poor in the county as are not in conflict with other laws. Expenses for temporary relief outside the poorhouse, the burial of indigents, etc., are legitimate charges upon the county. The court of county commissioners is authorized to grant a sum not exceeding \$40 per annum to compensate veterans who are totally unable to do physical labor. Relatives in the degree of parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters, if of sufficient ability, are liable for the support of any poor person.

The court of county commissioners may purchase lands and other property for the erection and maintenance of a poorhouse, and is responsible for the management of the same.

Arizona.—In each county the care of the indigent sick is let to the best responsible bidder by the board of supervisors. The bidder to whom contract is awarded must furnish a bond of \$5,000 for the faithful performance of his contract. The applications for admission to a county hospital (almshouse) are made on oath that the persons in question are unable to take care of themselves. A penalty is provided for allowing persons to remain public charges after they have become restored to health and able to take care of themselves. The contractor has full use of any building erected by the county for hospital purposes and is subject in the first instance to the control of the board of county supervisors. The general supervision of charitable institutions (including county hospitals) is vested in a board of control, consisting of the governor, the auditor, and one citizen of the territory.

Arkansas.—Every county must relieve its own poor. Sheriffs, coroners, constables, and justices of the peace shall give information to their respective county courts of the poor; and the county court has the duty of providing for such persons. If satisfied that the applicants are paupers the county court shall order their commitment to the poorhouse, there to remain until discharged by an order of the court. County courts have the power to establish poorhouses, and when completed the court shall let them out annually to the lowest responsible bidder under bond

for the faithful care of the inmates. In counties without poorhouses, the court may let the care of the poor to the lowest responsible bidder. The county is not liable for the support of any pauper who refuses to accept county aid in the manner provided above. The county court may cause the employment of each able-bodied pauper on work for the county.

California.—The board of supervisors of each county has the duty to construct or lease, officer, and maintain hospitals and almshouses, or, at their discretion, to provide otherwise for the indigent sick or dependent poor of the county; and for such purposes may levy the necessary tax. The board of supervisors appoints the superintendents and the necessary medical officers of such hospitals and almshouses. The board may let out the care or attendance of the sick and poor by contract to the lowest bidder. The board has authority to provide a farm in connection with the county hospital or poorhouse.

It is incumbent upon every county and every city and county to relieve at the expense of the county the indigent sick and the poor who can not otherwise be provided for. But if such person has not resided in the county or city for three months immediately preceding the application for aid, then the expense shall be borne by the county in which such person has a lawful residence.

It is the duty of the superintendent of any county hospital or almshouse to inquire into the ability of persons admitted and of their kindred to bear the cost of maintaining them in hospitals. If a person who is a public charge becomes possessed of property at any time the cost of his support may be recovered through process of law. Kindred in the degree of husband, wife, child, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, or sisters are liable for the support of a poor person.

It is a misdemeanor to bring any poor or incompetent person into any county or city and county wherein he is not lawfully settled.

The state board of charities has authority to investigate and report upon county hospitals and almshouses.

Colorado.—The chairman of the board of county commissioners is ex officio superintendent of the poor of his county and has all the ordi-

nary duties pertaining to such office. The law imposes an obligation upon parents to support their children, and no indebtedness is created by the fact of such support. An adult person having a parent must provide for his or her support, if of sufficient ability, and neglect or refusal to do so is punishable as a misdemeanor by imprisonment for from thirty to ninety days.

There are no other restrictions in the matter of granting relief than that all county poor must be registered in the office of the county clerk, and that no payment of relief to any applicant may be made until the facts in regard to his name, age, sex, place of birth, time of immigration to the United States and to the state, etc., have been recorded. The superintendent of the poor must render monthly accounts to the county board of all his expenditures for relief.

The almshouses or infirmaries are under the control of the county board and are subject to inspection by the state board of charities.

The law authorizes the probate judge of any county to appoint a board of visitors for the inspection of all charitable and corrective institutions located in the county. Such a board must visit the almshouses among other institutions at least once in three months, and have authority to recommend changes and improvements that they may deem essential. The board of county visitors must make a full report with recommendations to the secretary of the state board of charities.

Connecticut.—The selectmen of each town are the overseers of the poor and must provide for the subsistence of all paupers belonging to the town, whether the paupers reside there or not, but the expense must be borne by the town in which the paupers have a settlement which is gained, in general, by residence in a town for four years without receiving poor aid. Paupers supported by the town must be cared for in the almshouse and not by contract, except that partial support may be given outside almshouses. Each town may establish its own almshouse under the control of the selectmen, or towns may unite for the support of their paupers in an almshouse. The selectmen as overseers of the poor are required to keep accurate records of the paupers whether fully supported or only partly relieved, and make returns with a statement of cost to the state board of charities.

Paupers who have no settlement in the state, whether cared for in town almshouses or otherwise, are to be maintained at the expense of the state, but only for the period of six months. Thereafter the town in which such pauper lived when applying for relief becomes chargeable for his support, provided he ever resided there continuously for six months. A penalty of \$70 is prescribed for bringing paupers into a town. Provisions are made to guard against imposition by persons owning property and to secure the support of a poor person by parents, grandparents, children, or grandchildren, and in the case of a widow, by her husband's heirs.

Almshouses are subject to inspection by the state board of charities.

Delaware.—The trustees of the poor of each county, who are appointed by the levy court, form a corporation and have the superintendency of the almshouses and the sole charge of the poor of their county. The trustees appoint the overseer of the almshouse under their supervision and prescribe the regulations of management. The overseer shall not admit any person to the almshouse without a written order from one of the trustees. Any two trustees may dismiss a pauper. The overseer must provide employment for inmates.

The liability of a county for the support of a pauper is determined by his settlement, which is gained by holding any public office for a year, by paying poor taxes for any two years, or by paying rent to the value of \$50 for one year, etc. Provision is made for the removal of paupers to the place of settlement and for the recovery of cost for the support of paupers belonging in other counties. The parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren of any poor person are liable for his support according to ability. There is a penalty for bringing paupers into a county. The transactions of the trustees of the poor are subject to the scrutiny of the levy court.

Florida.—The constitution of the state says that the respective counties shall provide in the manner prescribed by law for those of the inhabitants who by reason of age, infirmity, or misfortune may have claims upon the aid and sympathy of society. No general statute governing poor relief has been enacted. The county commissioners have

the duty to "provide for the poor and indigent people of the state." City and town councils may look after their own poor.

Georgia.—The general supervision of all paupers is vested in the ordinaries of each county, who have authority to establish poorhouses or pauper farms (including the erection of workshops, schoolhouses, or churches on such farms), to lay and collect a tax to meet the necessary expense, and to establish all necessary rules and regulations for the management of such institutions.

The county ordinaries may appoint a commissioner of the poor. Applications for admission as a pauper are made to the commissioner of the poor or to the ordinary. The law defines as paupers the persons who are unable to support themselves "by laboring." The liability of relatives to support their poor extends only to parents and children.

Persons or corporations bringing paupers into the state or from one part of it to another are liable for their support. Each county may relieve ex-Confederate soldiers from the poor fund without compelling them to become inmates of the poorhouse.

Idaho.—The board of county commissioners may contract for the care and maintenance of the indigent sick and dependent poor. There is no requirement that a person must have resided within the county a given length of time before receiving the benefits provided for. Aid is likewise extended to residents of other states. The board must employ a physician to "attend upon the inmates of the poorhouse or county hospital" and must provide for the employment of those who are able to work at some kind of manual labor.

Application for county aid must be made in writing, duly sworn to and directed to the probate judges, the clerk of the county board, or any local justice of the peace. A certificate of the findings upon such application must be filed in the office of the county commissioners. No claim is allowed unless a proper certificate is produced. The discharges from the county poorhouse or hospital are made by the keeper; but the county commissioners have authority to return a person who, in their judgment, has been improperly discharged. There is no provision for the support of poor persons by their relatives.

Illinois.—In counties under township organization the overseers of the respective towns shall be ex officio overseers of the poor. In towns of more than 4,000 inhabitants the county board may appoint an overseer who is a resident of such town. In counties not under township organization the county board shall designate some suitable person in each precinct to act as overseer of the poor. The overseers have the care of all indigents who are not supported at the county poorhouse; but when such a poorhouse does not exist they may let out the support of the poor by contract.

The county board of any county in which the poor are not supported by the towns thereof has power to establish, maintain, and control county poorhouses, to appoint keepers, a county physician, and a county agent of the poor. In counties under township organization each town may have its paupers supported in the county poorhouse by paying the rate fixed by the county board.

There are elaborate provisions to compel under process of law the support of the poor either in whole or in part by their relatives according to ability. For bringing a pauper into a county in which he has no legal residence a fine of \$100 may be imposed.

The state board of charities has the duty of inspecting and reporting upon almshouses.

Indiana.—The township trustees are ex officio overseers of the poor. Adults acquire legal settlement by a residence in a township for a whole year. Before granting relief the overseer must carefully ascertain an applicant's legal settlement, physical state, occupation, capacity for labor, his family relations, the ability of kindred to furnish support, etc. Where needed, temporary relief must always be afforded, including proper medical and surgical care; but before permanent aid is granted effort must be made to render the applicant self-supporting. If the applicant has relations in the township, the overseer must ask them to aid in the case before granting relief a second time. If an able-bodied applicant refuse to work he shall be denied aid other than admission to the poor asylum, where he shall be compelled to work. No relief to a value of more than \$10 may be given to any poor person or family other than burial and medical assistance to children, until all the facts in the

case have been presented to the board of county commissioners. A duplicate copy of this statement must be sent to the state board of charities.

It is the duty of each overseer to acquaint himself with all relief and charitable organizations in his township, and to cooperate with them as far as possible by interchange of information and in other ways, to the end that duplication of relief may be avoided and misguided alms cease to be given. Able-bodied nonresidents shall, when possible, be put to hard manual labor and may not receive relief or transportation. Nor may transportation be furnished at the cost of the township to a sick, aged, or crippled person except in the direction of his legal residence.

All allowances for charitable purposes made from the public funds must be reported quarterly by the county auditor to the state board of charities. Full records of the persons aided and of the kind and amount of relief must be kept in a prescribed form by overseers, copies of which records must be filed once in three months with the county auditor and duplicates transmitted by him to the state board of charities.

If it is impossible to establish the legal settlement of an applicant for relief, the overseer must provide for him in the same manner as for other persons. The board of county commissioners has authority to reverse the decision of an overseer in the case of refusal to grant relief. Removals of poor persons to the township of their legal residence are made at the expense of such township.

It is the duty of the overseers to bind out children falling to their care. Where this is done the facts must be reported to the county auditor and by him transmitted to the state board of charities. No child between the ages of 3 and 7 may be retained as an inmate of a county poor asylum for more than sixty days.

As persons become permanent charges upon their respective towns, the overseers of the poor shall remove them to the county asylum. Every county shall maintain a county asylum in addition to any other charitable institution permitted by law for the reception of indigent persons lawfully settled in the county who may be placed there by the overseers of the poor. The county may also contract with other charitable institutions in the state for the support of the poor maintained therein as a public charge of said county. The superintendents of the county asylums are appointed by the boards of county commissioners for two terms, and must possess certain stated qualifications. The county board also prescribes the regulations for the management of the asylum other than those specified in the statutes, but the superintendent selects his own subordinates and has the power to remove them. The law also expressly provides that the superintendent shall be guided by the suggestions made him by the board of state charities. He must make such reports to this board as may be required. All plans in regard to new almshouse buildings or alterations of old must be approved by the state board, which has the duty to inspect and report upon this class of institutions.

Iowa.—The board of supervisors of each county has authority to establish a poorhouse, to prescribe regulations for its management, and to appoint the steward of the same, who may be removed by the board at pleasure. No person shall be admitted to the poorhouse except upon the written order of a township trustee. When an inmate becomes able to support himself the board must order his discharge. The poorhouse must be inspected at least once a month by one of the county supervisors. The supervisors have authority to let out the support of the poor with the use and occupancy of the poorhouse and farm for a period not exceeding three years. Liability for support of relatives extends to parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren. A legal settlement is gained by residing one year in the state; but the authorities may prevent a person from obtaining a settlement by "warning to depart" if he is a county charge or likely to become such. The general relief of the poor is in charge of the township trustees, subject to the regulations of the board of supervisors. For cities the board may appoint an overseer of the poor.

Kansas.—The county asylums for paupers are under the management of the county commissioners, who have power to make such orders regarding the poor of their counties as they may deem proper. They appoint the superintendent of the poorhouse, and the attending physician, and may annually select a board of visitors, who shall inspect the asylum

at least once a year and report upon its condition. In all counties having more than 28,000 inhabitants the county board may appoint a commissioner of the poor, whose duty it is to visit weekly the county asylums and to render to the commissioners a monthly report of its condition, the number of inmates, the health of each pauper, the expenses incurred, etc. Admissions to the asylum are made on the written order of the commissioner of the poor.

Provision is made for the education of children kept at the asylum. It is a misdemeanor to send persons who have become or are likely to become public charges out of the county to which they belong.

Where a special commissioner is not appointed, the mayor and council of the incorporated cities and the township trustees have the care of the poor; and if no common poorhouse has been established they may annually ask proposals for the maintenance of the poor. Legal settlement is gained by six months' residence in a county.

Kentucky.—The county courts have the duty of providing for the support of the paupers of their respective counties. They have authority to erect, maintain, and control poorhouses, and to appoint one or more commissioners of the poorhouse with power to cause by coercion any able-bodied poor person kept at the poorhouse to labor. Admission to the poorhouse is by order of the county court or the county judge. Beggars may be sent to and kept at the poorhouse. It is unlawful to bring paupers into the county or from one county into another.

Louisiana.—It is the duty of the several police juries throughout the state to provide for the support of all infirm, sick, and disabled paupers within the limits of their parishes, except those residing in municipal corporations either exempt or partially exempt from parish taxation. The police juries are also authorized to establish a farm or home for the paupers of their parish, to appoint the necessary officials and agents, to fix their compensation, etc.

Maine.—The overseers have the care of persons chargeable to their town. Towns may contract for the support of their poor for a term not exceeding five years. Towns may unite in maintaining a poor farm. The overseers of a town have charge of the poor farm and buildings, establish the rules of management, appoint the superintendent, and may cause all the paupers to be supported there. They may also receive paupers of other towns into the almshouse.

A person having his home in a town for five successive years without receiving supplies as a pauper has a settlement therein and is entitled to support by the town. There are elaborate provisions in regard to derivative settlements and the forfeiture of settlements. Honorably discharged veterans of the army and navy, although having become dependent, are not considered as paupers, and neither they nor their immediate families may be supported at the almshouse. Parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren are liable for each other's support according to ability. It is an offense, punishable by a fine of \$300 or by imprisonment for a year, to bring a pauper into a town in which he has no settlement. The towns are reimbursed by the state for the care of paupers who have not a legal settlement anywhere in the state. The cost of supporting paupers having a settlement in another town is recoverable under legal action.

Maryland.—There are no general statutes governing poor relief and the management of almshouses. The care of indigents which devolves upon locally chosen trustees of the poor is accomplished for the most part under local laws, each of which refers to a particular county or city. There are, however, general laws relating to the treatment of pauper lunatics and of minors. There is thus the general provision that trustees of the poor or the county commissioners may not receive into or retain in any almshouse any child between 3 and 16 years of age for a longer period than ninety days, unless such child be an idiot, an epileptic, a paralytic, or otherwise incapable of labor or service. With the exceptions noted such pauper children are to be placed in families or educational institutions for children, subject, however, to visitation by the properly constituted authorities.

Massachusetts.—Every city and town must relieve and support all indigent persons lawfully settled therein. In general, legal settlement is acquired by adults through residence in any city or town for five consecutive years and payment of taxes for any three years within that time, or through three consecutive years of residence upon a freehold

owned by them. There are special provisions in regard to the settlement of women and children and exemptions in favor of war veterans.

Overseers of the poor, elected or appointed, have the care and oversight of the poor in towns and cities, and may provide for them in their own homes, in other families under contract, or in almshouses. Families having charge of poor persons under contract are subject to visitation and inspection by the overseers of the poor as well as by the state board of charity. Pauper children over 4 years of age must be placed in families or orphanages under proper safeguards, and must not be kept in almshouses except in certain specified cases. The liability of relatives to support their poor extends to parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren. The cost of poor relief, no matter where given, falls upon the town in which the indigent has a settlement. If he has no settlement he is cared for at the expense of the state, subject to the control of the state board of charities.

The overseers of the poor are required to make annual returns to the state board of charities in regard to relief work and the cost thereof, and to keep records in a prescribed form. It is a punishable offense to bring a pauper into any place in which he is not lawfully settled.

Unless otherwise provided by special acts granting special powers and privileges, cities and towns may provide their own almshouses for the employment and support of indigent persons under the control of a board of directors; or cities and towns may jointly maintain an almshouse. A city or town may also establish a hospital for the benefit of the indigent sick. It is the duty of the state board of charities to visit all almshouses and make an annual statement of their condition and management. A state hospital is maintained under the control of the same board for the benefit of state paupers.

Michigan.—In each county three superintendents of the poor are appointed by the board of supervisors. The superintendents of the poor have full charge of all the poor who may be in their county, and of the county poorhouse. Where no poorhouse has been erected, it is their duty to provide other suitable places for keeping the poor, if so directed by the supervisors. Persons are admitted to the poorhouse on the written order of a county superintendent or a supervisor of a township, city, or ward, if it appears upon investigation that permanent relief is required. Temporary or partial relief is furnished outside of the poorhouse. Relief work performed by the above-mentioned supervisors must be reported to the county superintendents within ten days. All persons who are county charges because of acute disease or physical injuries and are likely to remain such, unless receiving special treatment, are to be sent to the hospital of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. The superintendents are obliged to make detailed reports in regard to both indoor and outdoor paupers, and supervisors, directors, and overseers in townships and cities are required to make reports to the superintendents.

In the counties in which the distinction between township and county poor has not been abolished, the poor shall be supported at the expense of the county in which they have a settlement. In general, a settlement is gained by adults through residence in any township or city for one year. There are minute regulations governing the duties of supervisors, directors, and overseers in the matter of providing poor relief according to the pauper's settlement.

The law also prescribes a uniform system of records and accounts for the use of superintendents, overseers, and directors of the poor and of keepers of poorhouses.

Special provision is made for the medical and surgical treatment of dependent children at the hospital of the University of Michigan. It is the duty of physicians attending the birth of children of indigent parents, if such children be deformed or suffer from some curable malady, to report the fact to the proper authorities. Such children are to be treated at the hospital of the University of Michigan. The poorhouses are subject to inspection by the state board of corrections and charities, whose duty it is to report upon their condition and management.

The parents and children of an indigent person are liable for his support and must maintain him in such manner as shall be approved by the superintendents of the poor.

It is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than three months or a fine of not more than \$100, to bring an indigent person into the state.

Minnesota.—The county commissioners are superintendents of the poor, and have charge of the erection and maintenance of the county poorhouse. If the conditions do not warrant the establishment of a poorhouse, the commissioners may provide for indigents in other ways. Whenever a place is provided for the reception of the poor, the county commissioners must annually appoint an overseer of the poor, who has immediate charge and control of the poor of the county and of the poorhouse, subject to the general supervision and direction of the county commissioners. The overseer must keep records of all the poor and make stated returns to the county board. A county physician to the poor is also appointed by the commissioner. Provision for the poor is to be made on the written order of the commissioner, after due inquiry as to the needs of the case. A legal residence is gained by living continuously in any county for one year and entitles a poor person to public relief unless parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, or sisters are able to provide for him.

In counties having the township system of poor relief, the board of supervisors of the towns and the common councils of villages and cities are superintendents of the poor to the exclusion of the county commissioners. The general laws of the state as to legal residence apply also to the residence of poor persons in towns, villages, and cities. Where the town system of poor relief prevails, the county commissioners, with the advice and consent of the state board of control, may establish and maintain a poorhouse.

The chairman of the board of town supervisors and the president of the common council have the authority to sign commitments to the county poorhouse.

There is a penalty of \$50 for illegally bringing poor persons into a county. Provision is made for the aid of nonresident paupers and also for the deportation of alien paupers by the proper authorities in counties under the township system. Reports upon the movement of population in poorhouses and expenditures for poor relief are made biennially by the state board of control.

Mississippi.—The board of supervisors of each county has charge of the relief and support of the poor of its county. Residence for six months prior to application entitles any pauper to be supported by the county. Others are relieved at the expense of the county of their residence. The members of the board of supervisors are required to investigate each case of distress coming to notice in their district and report it to the board.

Parents, grandparents, and the descendants of any pauper not able to work shall maintain him at their own charge.

The supervisors have control of the poorhouses, the appointment of superintendents and other help, and may provide for the employment of the pauper inmates. It is unlawful for any superintendent of a poorhouse to permit a healthy child over 3 years of age to remain at the poorhouse. Poor orphan children are bound out as apprentices by the supervisors until they have reached their majority. The board of supervisors may contract with any person for the service rendered by him. Persons refusing to abide by the disposition made of them by the board are not entitled to relief.

Missouri.—The county court of each county is charged with the care of the inhabitants of the county who are entitled to relief. No poor person is deemed an inhabitant who has not resided in the county for twelve months next preceding the time of any order being made respecting such poor person. The county court may, however, at its discretion, grant relief to all persons, without regard to residence, who may require its assistance.

The county court may erect a poorhouse, appoint a superintendent of the same, and make all rules and orders for its management. The superintendent has power to cause, by reasonable and humane coercion, all inmates who are able to do useful work to perform the same. A county may let out the support of the poor by contract.

Montana.—The board of county commissioners is vested with entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor. Application for relief must be made to some member of the board, who must require satisfactory evidence that the applicant has been a resident of the county for two months preceding. In cases of extreme necessity persons who have not been residents for this period may be furnished relief. The parents,

grandparents, children, or grandchildren of a pauper, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support.

The board of county commissioners may establish a poor farm and provide therein for the sick, poor, and infirm of the county under such regulations as it may prescribe. Or the board may annually make a contract under bond with a suitable person for the care of the sick and poor. The board must also once a year make a contract with some resident physician to furnish medical attendance to the sick who are county charges.

Nebraska.—Justices of the peace in counties having no poorhouses are the overseers of the poor, with exclusive control of the paupers in their districts. They may confide the care of the poor requiring full support to some moral and discreet householder under bond to the county. Overseers must make full returns to the county commissioners in regard to the poor. In fixing the compensation paid for keeping any poor person, his ability to labor should be considered. A pauper having resided in the county at the commencement of the thirty days immediately preceding his application as a pauper is entitled to be relieved by the county. A pauper having a residence in another county is to be removed thither, and the money expended in his behalf can be recovered.

The parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters of any poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. A penalty of \$100 is provided for bringing paupers into a county.

The county commissioners of each county are authorized, whenever they see fit so to do, to establish a poorhouse and to employ such agents as are necessary to put it into operation. Whenever a poorhouse so established is ready for occupancy, the authority of the justices of the peace as overseers of the poor ceases and is vested in the board of county commissioners. In counties maintaining a poorhouse, the townships are not chargeable with the support of the poor.

Nevada.—The boards of county commissioners are vested with exclusive superintendence of the poor in their respective counties. The parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters of a poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. The county commissioners may make a contract for the necessary maintenance of the poor who are county charges or appoint agents to oversee and provide for them. A minor who is a county charge must be bound out as an apprentice to some respectable householder. A person is entitled to county relief who has been a resident of the county for six months immediately preceding the application for relief. Provisions are made for the relief of nonresident paupers and for their removal to the county to which they belong.

The county commissioners may establish workhouses for the accommodation and employment of county paupers under such regulations as they may deem proper. There is a penalty of \$100 for bringing a pauper into a county.

New Hampshire.—The overseers of the poor in any town must relieve and maintain the poor of such town who are settled therein and must furnish temporary aid to indigent nonresidents. In general, a settlement is gained by residence for seven consecutive years, during which taxes have been regularly paid, or by payment of taxes for four years in succession upon certain amounts of real or personal property. No town is liable for the support of any person unless he has gained a settlement during the ten years last preceding the date of application for relief.

The parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren of any poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. Town paupers requiring complete maintenance, except honorably discharged veterans who must be supported outside the almshouses, as well as those without town settlement, are cared for on county poor farms, which are under the control of the county commissioners. The overseers have authority under the law to establish town almshouses, to bind out paupers, and to apprentice children. Only county almshouses are maintained. Except in certain cases, no minor between the ages of 3 and 15 years may be retained in any county almshouse for more than sixty days, unless by consent of the state board of charities. It is the duty of overseers and county commissioners to find suitable homes for such minors, subject to regulations of the state

board of charities. Said board is also charged with the visitation and inspection of almshouses.

For bringing a pauper into a town or county a penalty of a fine or imprisonment may be imposed.

New Jersey.—Poor relief is administered by overseers in cities, towns, and corporate townships. In cities of the first class overseers of the poor are appointed by the board of aldermen to hold office during good behavior; in cities of the second class they are appointed for a term of two years; and in all cities of not less than 25,000 inhabitants, for two years. Overseers are required to keep a record, open to public inspection, of the poor, and to inquire carefully into the condition of all applicants for relief. Except in cases of temporary need, relief is restricted to inhabitants who have a legal settlement in the city or town. Natives of New Jersey gain a settlement by living upon a freehold of the value of \$130 for one year; healthy immigrants, by residence anywhere for one year continuously. Persons without a legal settlement in the place where application for support is made may be removed to the town or city in which they have a settlement, or to the place where they last resided for six months continuously. Parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren of a poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. Overseers, with the consent of two justices of the peace, must bind out dependent and neglected children during minority. Under proper safeguards children, if under 12 years of age, may also be committed by a judge of the court of common pleas of the county to any duly incorporated children's home in the county.

Overseers of the poor in townships in which no provision is made for county support may maintain a poorhouse and farm, or several townships may combine for this purpose. Poorhouses are under the control of township committees, boards of trustees, or city councils, as the case may be. The keeper of a poorhouse is required to keep a record of the inmates in detail and open to public inspection.

Incorporated towns of not less than 14,000 inhabitants in counties of not more than 20,000 or less than 14,000 population may provide for their own poor and be relieved of the county poor tax.

It is unlawful to bring alien poor into the state.

New York.—The county superintendents of the poor have the general superintendence and care of poor persons in their respective counties. They have the duty to provide and keep in repair suitable almshouses when so directed by the board of supervisors; to establish rules for the management of such almshouses and for the employment of the inmates, subject to the approval of the county judge; to employ keepers of almshouses (unless one be appointed by the board of supervisors), physicians, and other officers; to purchase all supplies and materials for the almshouses, etc. The county superintendents also decide summarily all disputes concerning the settlement of paupers, audit and settle all accounts for services to the poor, and look after all county charges who require only temporary assistance or can not safely be removed to the county almshouse. The board of supervisors of any county may appoint as keeper of its almshouse one of the superintendents of the poor. Idiots and lunatics must be provided for by the superintendents in other places than the almshouse. The superintendents must make an annual report in detail and in a prescribed form to the state board of charities.

A distinction is made in some cases between county and town poor in the apportionment of expenses as well as in regard to the form of supervision. In counties where the towns are obliged to support the poor, applications are made to the local overseer, who must furnish relief according to the needs of the case or on a written order cause the person to be removed to the almshouse. Except where otherwise specially provided by law, overseers of the poor in cities have the same obligations as overseers in towns. Overseers are obliged to make full annual reports to the board of supervisors.

The liability for the support of a poor person is determined according to his legal settlement, which may be gained, in general, by adults through residence for one year in any town or city.

The support of a poor person must be charged to the town or city of his settlement and his removal caused thither. There is a penalty of \$50 provided for removing a poor person from one town or city to another without legal authority and for bringing foreign poor into the state.

Poor children under 16 years may not be committed to an almshouse as delinquents, nor may a child under 16 be sent as a poor person to any county almshouse, but must be provided for in families or appropriate institutions, except that a child under 2 years may be sent with his mother, if she be a poor person, to any county asylum, although he may not be retained there after reaching 2 years of age. Special provisions govern relief to soldiers and their families and the burial of the same.

Poor persons who have not resided sixty days in any county within one year preceding the time of an application are deemed state poor persons and are provided for at the cost of the state. The state board of charities is charged with making a contract with the authorities of not more than fifteen counties or cities for the reception and support of such persons in their almshouses. With the same exception as in the case of other poor, state poor must be provided for in the nearest state almshouse. An inmate of a state almshouse who leaves the same without being duly discharged may, if found soliciting aid within one year thereafter, be imprisoned for not more than three months. The superintendent of the state and of the alien poor shall visit the state almshouses at least once in three months and make report to the state board of charities.

It is the duty of the state board of charities, among other things, to administer the law providing for the care, support, and removal of state and of alien poor and the support of Indian poor persons; to advise the officers of almshouses in the performance of their official duties; and to collect statistical information in regard to all almshouses and to the number and condition of the inmates thereof. No almshouse may be built or reconstructed except on plans and designs approved in writing by the state board of charities.

North Carolina.—The board of commissioners for each county is authorized to provide for the maintenance and well-ordering of the poor and to employ biennially some competent person as overseer of the poor. All persons who become chargeable to any county must be maintained at the county home for the aged and infirm, or at such other place as the board of commissioners may select. Paupers must not be let out at public auction.

The county is not liable for the full support of paupers unless they have a legal settlement in the county, which may be gained by residence for one year. Other paupers or needy persons must be taken care of at the expense of the county to which they belong and be removed thither as soon as practicable.

The county home of the aged and infirm is under the control of the board of commissioners of each county. The board may employ an overseer on a fixed salary to care for the inmates of the home, or may pay a specified sum for the support of the paupers to anyone who will take charge of the home and its inmates.

The county homes are subject to inspection by the state board of public charities. There is also a system of voluntary county visitors to the almshouses.

North Dakota.—The county commissioners of the several counties are the overseers of the poor and have the care of all indigent persons so long as they remain county charges. Each county must relieve all the poor persons residing therein. The county can be required to give only temporary aid to persons who have not gained a settlement, which in general is acquired by residence on the part of an adult for ninety days. Persons not having a legal settlement are to be removed to the county in which they have a settlement, and the commissioners of such county are obliged to receive poor persons so removed.

The board of county commissioners, having submitted the question to the voters of the county, may establish asylums for the poor and employ some humane and responsible person, who is a resident of the county, to take charge of the same upon such terms and under such restrictions as the commissioners may fix. Two or more counties may jointly establish an asylum. The board must annually appoint a well-qualified physician to attend the county asylum. All poor persons who are permanent county charges must be removed to the asylum and provision made for their employment. In exceptional cases the county commissioners may provide for indigents outside of the asylum. The superintendent is required to make detailed reports to the board in writ-

ing semiannually. The board of county commissioners must inspect the asylum annually and may appoint three residents as a board of visitors.

There is a penalty of \$100 for bringing a pauper into a county as well as for sending a pauper out of a county.

Poor children may be bound out, but, if it is necessary to keep them at the asylum, provision must be made for their education.

Ohio.—The trustees of each township or the proper officers of each corporation therein must furnish relief to all persons who may require it. Legal settlement in any county is acquired by adults through residence for twelve consecutive months without relief. When an application for relief is made, the proper officers must make a thorough investigation and inquire particularly in what township or county the applicant is legally settled. The information so ascertained must be transmitted to the township clerk or proper officer of the corporation, and no support shall be granted without such investigation, except that, in cities where there is maintained a benevolent association which makes it a business to investigate and keep a record of indigent persons, officials shall accept the information of such association and may grant relief upon its recommendation.

If satisfied that the applicant has a legal residence in some other county, the township trustees or officers of a corporation must notify the infirmity directors, who shall cause the removal of the applicant to the county in which he has a settlement at the expense of such county, due notice of such removal having been given.

The trustees or officers of a corporation are required to make itemized returns of expenditures for poor relief. Said officers may contract with physicians to supply medical aid and medicines for one year. Applicants for outdoor aid may be required, if able, to perform labor to the value of the aid received, upon any free public park, public highway, or other public property. If the recipient of relief refuses to perform the labor required, the fact shall be recorded, all support refused him, and he may be proceeded against as a vagrant.

A recent law provides for quarterly grants by the counties of money not exceeding \$25 per capita to adult blind persons who are indigent.

Each county infirmity (almshouse) is under an elected board of directors of three persons, one of whom must be chosen every year. Vacancies occurring in such board are filled by the county commissioners. Each infirmity director must give bond in a sum of not less than \$2,000. The directors make all contracts, except for current supplies and necessary purchases, prescribe regulations for the management of the institution, and appoint its superintendent. In no case shall the directors appoint one of their own number as superintendent, or to any office therein. The superintendent must keep the inmates employed. He must further receive as inmates all persons shown by the trustees of a city or township to be entitled to admission, and the directors may confer upon him authority to discharge inmates. He is required to keep records in prescribed detail of the inmates and render itemized accounts.

At each monthly meeting the directors must carefully examine the condition of the institution and of its inmates and inspect records and accounts. The directors must render quarterly reports to the state board of charities.

Provision is made for the publication in any county newspaper, if such publication can be made free of charge, of a detailed report for any month or months of receipts and expenditures of the infirmity, names and wages of employees, the movement of population, and of the facts in detail concerning children under 16 years of age.

In counties without a children's home the directors may transfer any child of sound mind and free from infectious disease, who is a public charge, to a home maintained by private charity instead of committing him to the infirmity.

Inmates of infirmaries are to be charged cost of maintenance if found to possess or to come into property.

Infirmity directors may not directly or indirectly sell or furnish supplies for the support of the poor under penalty of a fine from \$500 to \$3,000 and criminal prosecution. The same applies to superintendents. Bringing poor persons into a county for the purpose of making them a public charge is forbidden under penalty of \$50. It is not lawful to

maintain children who are eligible to children's homes, except infants accompanying their mothers, at infirmaries, unless they be imbecile or insane. If no county home for children is maintained, provision shall be made for children who are public charges at the nearest children's home. Children may be bound out to orphan asylums or children's homes and by them in turn to other persons. Children who are neglected or abused by their parents may be committed to the guardianship of a county or district children's home.

The board of state charities has the power and duty of investigating all infirmaries and children's homes. All plans for the alteration or erection of such institutions must be submitted to the board for approval; and the institutions must render report at stated times in such form as this board may prescribe.

Oklahoma.—Every county must support all indigents who are lawfully settled therein and allow temporary relief to nonresidents. A settlement and thereby right to county poor relief are gained, in general, by six months' continuous residence in any county.

The county commissioners are the overseers of the poor of their respective counties and act upon all applications for relief.

Upon petition of at least one-fourth of the taxpayers, the county commissioners may establish a county asylum for the poor, or provide such asylum in other ways than by purchase. The county commissioners are responsible for the management of the county asylum and appoint its superintendent. They also appoint annually three citizens, who serve without pay, to visit the asylum and report upon its condition.

Oregon.—The county courts are vested with entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor in their respective counties. The parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters of a poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. If not, such person becomes a county charge, provided he has been a resident of the county for three months preceding the day on which application for relief was made. Minors who have become or are likely to become county charges may be apprenticed by the county court to some respectable householder. Expenses for the support of paupers who are not residents of the state are recoverable from the state. The county court may establish and manage a workhouse for the accommodation and employment of paupers who become county charges.

There is a penalty of \$100 for bringing paupers into a county wherein they are not lawfully settled.

The almshouses are subject to inspection and report by the state board of charities.

Pennsylvania.—In counties not maintaining their own almshouses the care of the poor devolves upon overseers, two residents being elected as such for each borough and township. In counties having almshouses poor relief is administered by elected directors of the poor; or boroughs and townships may be combined as a poor district, regardless of county lines, under elected directors of the poor, and maintain a common almshouse.

The overseers of the poor, directors, or other officers in charge of the poor in cities of the third class are authorized to furnish relief to indigents, if satisfied that it is necessary. In counties in which an almshouse is not maintained it is the duty of the poor directors or overseers to make the necessary provision for the sick, needy, and injured, without regard to their legal settlement; but if such persons have no settlement in the state, the county in which the poor district furnishing relief is located must bear the expense when proper notice has been given the county commissioners. In other cases the charge is borne by the district in which the applicant has a settlement. A person gains a settlement by payment of rent on real estate to a yearly value of \$10, by holding an elective office for a year, or by having a freehold and living upon it for a year, etc. It is lawful for overseers to board out paupers. The parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren of a pauper, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support.

County almshouses are under supervision of three elected directors who have full power in all that pertains to the regulation and management of the almshouses, subject to the approval of the court of quarter sessions for the time being of said county. The overseers of the poor in counties not having county almshouses are authorized to contract with the authorities of any adjoining county having a county poor-

house for the support of the poor of their boroughs and townships. Special acts govern the care of the poor in certain poor districts as well as in large cities.

The state board of charities has power to inspect and to report upon all almshouses.

Rhode Island.—A town is bound to support its own poor and to relieve others who are not lawfully settled therein. Overseers of the poor have the care of all indigent persons settled in their respective towns and shall see that they are properly supported in such ways as the citizens of the town may determine, or at the discretion of the overseers. Kindred of any poor person in the degree of parents, grandparents, children, or grandchildren are liable for his support according to ability. Legal settlement, entitling a person to other than temporary relief, is gained by adults through ownership of real estate to the value of \$200 and payment of taxes on the same for five years in succession; or by having an estate in a town of the yearly income of \$20 or over and taking the profits thereof for three years successively.

Overseers of the poor may bind out to certain named charitable societies the pauper children of their towns.

When it is found that a person is chargeable upon another town than the one in which he seeks relief the overseers shall cause his removal to such town and at its expense. A penalty of \$50 is provided for permitting a person, whose removal has been ordered by the town council, to remain after such order has been issued.

A fine of \$100 may be imposed for bringing a pauper into a town in which he is not lawfully settled.

Towns may provide almshouses under the management of town councils. Persons without legal settlement in the state are supported in the state almshouse.

The state board of charities is concerned merely with state institutions and has no responsibilities in regard to local almshouses.

South Carolina.—The county commissioners are overseers of the poor, except that in the cities of Charleston and Columbia the city authorities must provide for the poor of those places. Legal settlement, obliging the county to furnish support, is gained, in general, by residence in a county for three years. Provision is made for the support of poor persons having lawful settlements in other places, for their removal thither, and for the recovery of the expenses incurred by the place giving relief. The overseers of each city and county must make annual returns to the secretary of state with full details as to number, sex, color, etc., of the paupers helped, the mode of support, cost of the same, etc. Children who are county charges or likely to become such may be apprenticed to some reputable person—if males, until 16 years of age; if females, until 14 years old.

The county commissioners have charge of the poorhouse, appoint its superintendent, physician, etc. The poorhouse must have sufficient tillable land to give employment to all paupers who are able to work. The commissioners must submit an annual report containing an itemized statement of expenses and an account of the condition of the poorhouse and of its inmates to the presiding judge of the court of general sessions, which report is turned over by him to the grand jury.

South Dakota.—The county commissioners of the several counties are the overseers of the poor and have the duty of caring for all indigent persons lawfully settled therein. Adults gain a settlement by residence in any county for ninety days. Provision is made for the support of persons who are nonresidents of the county and for their removal to their place of legal residence; but there is no provision for the recovery of expenses in such cases. Being refused relief by the overseers, an applicant who believes himself entitled to it may appeal to the judge of the circuit court of the county, who in turn may direct the overseers to receive him on their poor list.

If no poorhouse is established, the overseers may advertise for sealed proposals for the maintenance for one year of all persons who are county charges. The county commissioners, having received the necessary authorization of the voters at a special election, may establish an asylum for the poor; or two or more counties may enter into joint ownership of such an asylum. The commissioners appoint a superintendent of the asylum, a physician to attend it, and may also

appoint a board of visitors to inspect the asylum at least once a year and report upon the management. It is the duty of the overseers and of the superintendent to bind out poor children coming into their care. Provision is also made for the education of children in an asylum who can not be bound out. A penalty is prescribed for sending poor persons out of the county in which they properly belong, as well as for bringing such persons into a county in which they have no settlement.

Tennessee.—Each county must provide an asylum and farm for the poor to be maintained under the supervision of three commissioners of the poor, appointed by the county. In counties having more than 150,000 inhabitants the chairman of the county court is ex officio a member and chairman of the board of commissioners of the poor. Elsewhere the chairman is chosen by the commissioners themselves. The commissioners act upon all applications for admission to the asylum, but their rulings are subject to revision by the county court. No person may be admitted to the asylum who has not been a resident of the county for one whole year next preceding his application. Except in counties of more than 150,000 inhabitants, where the superintendent is appointed by the county court, the commissioners select the superintendent of the asylum and make all regulations in regard to management and to the treatment of the inmates. The superintendent must render an annual report in detail concerning the asylum to commissioners, who in turn report to the county court.

The county court may let out the support of the poor with the use of the asylum and farm for a period not exceeding three years, or may contract with any person for the support of any or all the poor of the county for a period not exceeding one year. Or the court may make an annual allowance to persons who may become chargeable as paupers. Orphans or abandoned children may be bound out as apprentices by the county court until they have reached their majority. The relations of master and apprentice are governed by minute legislation, and are always subject to the supervision of the county court.

Texas.—The county commissioners have the duty to provide for the support of paupers, resident of their counties, who are unable to take care of themselves, to send indigent sick to county hospitals where such are established, and to bury the pauper dead. The commissioners may, by contract, bind a county in any reasonable sum for pauper support, and are authorized to employ physicians to the poor, etc. The almshouses are under the management of the county commissioners.

Except for these general provisions, there are no special statutes governing in detail poor relief and the management of almshouses.

Utah.—It is the duty of the county commissioners to provide for the care and maintenance of the indigent sick and otherwise poor of the county; to erect, officer, and maintain hospitals, poorhouses, and poor farms, at their discretion. The county commissioners must appoint suitable persons as superintendents and as medical officers of such institutions and not let the institutions to the highest bidder. The parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters of a poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. It is left to the county commissioners to adopt measures to prevent paupers from being brought into the county.

Vermont.—The overseers of the poor in each town are responsible for the relief and support of all indigent persons and may provide for them in a poorhouse, or in such other manner as the town directs, or at the discretion of the overseers. It is the duty of the overseers to relieve every needy person; but if such person has not resided for three years in the town in which application is made, then the town furnishing relief may recover the expense thereof from the town where the applicant last resided for three years. Settlement in a town is not gained by being an inmate of a charitable institution. The cost incurred by a town for the support of poor persons who are without legal settlement in the state is paid out of the state treasury. The parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren of any poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. A person may be punished by fine or by imprisonment for coming into a town with the intent of becoming chargeable as a pauper. For bringing a poor person from one town to another or from without the town with the intent of charging such town with his support a maximum penalty of \$500 is provided.

Towns may build, hire, or purchase poorhouses. The rules of management and of appointment of officers are made in town meeting.

Towns may unite for the purpose of supporting their poor in almshouses, each town appointing annually a superintendent of the poor, and the superintendents constituting a corporation. The board of superintendents has charge of the common almshouse and appoints the keeper. No person may be discharged from such a poorhouse except by the overseer of the town from which he was committed. Inmates of poorhouses must be employed and may be punished for idle or disorderly conduct.

Overseers may bind out children who are chargeable to the town.

Virginia.—The overseers of the poor of each district or the council of towns are charged with the relief of paupers, according to their legal settlement. A person is not deemed to have a legal settlement in any county or town until he has resided therein one year. Every person to be provided for by the overseer must, if practicable, be sent to the poorhouse. If a county is without such an institution, or if for some reason it be injudicious to remove paupers to the poorhouse, the overseers, having obtained the consent of the supervisors of the county, may make other provisions. Overseers or town officers must remove to the poorhouses persons who go about begging; but if such persons have a legal settlement in another county or state, they must be taken to the county, town, or state wherein they last had such settlement.

The county poorhouse is under the management of a superintendent of the poor appointed by the board of county supervisors. A physician to attend the sick at the poorhouse may also be appointed by the same board. An annual detailed report is required from the superintendent, the form of which may be prescribed by the auditor of public accounts, showing the number and color of inmates, the length of time each was relieved, the manner of employment, expenditures, etc. The auditor in turn makes a summary report on the poorhouses to the general assembly.

Washington.—The boards of county commissioners are vested with entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor in their respective counties, except where an incorporated city or town has power conferred by its charter in regard to the poor. The county commissioners may either make a contract for the necessary maintenance of poor persons who can not be cared for by their kindred or appoint agents to oversee and provide for them. The parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, brothers, and sisters of a poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. Residence in a county for six months preceding an application for poor relief entitles one to county support. If the applicant is a legal resident of another county, he must be removed to such county. But provision is made for aid to nonresidents or to any other person not coming within the definition of a pauper.

Minors who are county charges, or likely to become such, must be bound out by the county commissioners to some respectable householder of the county, a written indenture being required.

The board of county commissioners, under such regulations as they may deem proper, may establish workhouses for the accommodation and employment of county paupers. There is a penalty of \$100 for bringing a pauper into a county in which he is not lawfully settled.

West Virginia.—An overseer of the poor is appointed by the county court for each magisterial district to hold office for two years. A legal settlement in a county is gained by continuous residence for one year, except when a person unable to maintain himself has immigrated into the state within three years. Necessary poor relief must be afforded whether a person has a settlement or not; but in case he is chargeable to another county or state, he must, if practicable, be removed thither at the expense of his place of settlement. The parents, children, brothers, and sisters of a poor person, if of sufficient ability, are liable for his support. If there is a county infirmary, a pauper may not be kept at any other place except in emergency cases.

Every county court may establish a county infirmary for the poor, or the county courts of two or more adjoining counties may unite for this purpose. The county court may appoint an agent to have charge of the infirmary, subject to the control and regulations of the county. Such agent may not admit any one to the infirmary except upon the written order of the overseer of the poor or of said court. A member of the county court or one of the overseers must visit the infirmary at least

once a month and report to the court. Provision must be made for the employment of the inmates. Children kept at the infirmary are to receive proper education. The county court must annually publish a report in detail of the poor relief in the county. A penalty of \$100 is prescribed for bringing an indigent person into the state.

Wisconsin.—Every town must relieve and support all indigent persons lawfully settled therein. Adults gain a settlement by residing in a town one year. The supervisors of each town have the care of the poor. Parents and children of a poor person are liable for his support. Minors who have become or are likely to become town charges may be bound out by written indenture. When it seems necessary to afford poor relief in any town, city, or village to a person not having a settlement therein, the expense incurred shall be charged to the county. When considerations of public welfare demand it, the county judge may order that any person who is a public charge shall be committed to the poorhouse of the county for at least sixty days or for an indefinite period. A penalty of \$50 is imposed for bringing a pauper into any town with intent to make him chargeable upon the town.

The county board has the care of all poor persons who have no legal settlement in the town, city, or village where they may be. The county board of any county, wherein the distinction between town and county poor shall exist, may establish a poorhouse and appoint an agent to take charge of it. The county board of any county may, by a majority vote of all the town supervisors, abolish the distinction between county and town poor, whereupon the county becomes responsible for the support of all such poor. Where aforesaid distinction has been abolished, the county board may elect three county superintendents of the poor. In a county maintaining both a poorhouse and a county insane asylum, the trustees of the latter are ex officio superintendents of the poor; but the board may appoint superintendents of the poor solely to have charge of

relief work outside the poorhouse. County superintendents must give bond and furnish sureties. County boards have the control of the poorhouse and farm. Temporary relief outside of the poorhouse shall be afforded honorably discharged war veterans and their immediate families. With certain exceptions children between 5 and 16 years of age must be provided for in families or children's institutions and not be kept at the poorhouse. Provision is made for the removal of paupers to their place of settlement, for the recovery of all expenses incurred thereby, and for their temporary support in another town or county. In some places special laws govern the support of the poor.

Wyoming.—The boards of county commissioners are vested with entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor in their respective counties. The county commissioner may either make a contract for the care of the poor who are residents of the state or appoint agents to provide for them. Residence in a county for ninety days immediately preceding the day upon which application is made entitles a poor person to county support. Poor persons who are residents of other counties must be removed at the expense of such counties, which are likewise liable in case removal can not be effected. It is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$25 to \$100 to bring into a county a pauper who has a legal residence elsewhere. The county, town, or city authorities are also prohibited from transporting any pauper into any other county for the purpose of making him chargeable upon such other county.

The county commissioners may provide a workhouse for the accommodation and employment of county charges. Such workhouse is to be under the control of the county commissioners. Special legislation governs the maintenance of a poorhouse in Laramie county; a statute also provides for a state poor asylum in Tremont county, in charge of three commissioners appointed by the governor.